Study on Perceptions, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of Youth in Karnataka

KARNATAKA JNANA AAYOGA
(KARNATAKA KNOWLEDGE COMMISSION)
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

AUGUST 2011

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KARNATAKA JNANA AAYOGA

(Karnataka Knowledge Commission)

Government of Karnataka

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Preface

Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (Karnataka Knowledge Commission) was constituted in September 2008 under the Chairmanship of renowned space scientist Dr. K.Kasturirangan, who is also a Member of Planning Commission, Government of India. The mandate of the Commission is to transform Karnataka into a vibrant knowledge society. To accomplish the stated mandate, the Commission identified six focus areas, submitted sixty recommendations and commissioned six research studies.

A unique approach of the KJA, in attaining its mandate has been soliciting the views and opinions of the primary stakeholders. During the course of its consultation meetings, the KJA realised that it is of prime importance to consult the youth of the State as they play a very key role in transforming Karnataka into a vibrant knowledge society. To reach out to the youth of Karnataka, who nearly constituted 40 pc of the total State population was a challenge. After series of deliberations, KJA commissioned a first of the kind mega survey based research study titled 'A Study on Perception, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of Youth of Karnataka' with the following objectives:

1. Understand the perceptions of the youth
2. Measure the aspirations of the youth
3. Tap the expectations of the youth
4. Explore the attitudes and
5. Seek suggestions from youth on key issues.

The study captures the personal belief system of the youth and their perceptions on larger issues like socio-politico-economic system. In an attempt to cover the entire youth population, a representative sample of the universe was drawn from all over the State. The survey was conducted in 600 Polling Stations chosen from 150 Assembly Constituencies spread across the State. The target Sample size was set at 12600 of which 8999 Respondents were interviewed through a comprehensive questionnaire. The survey targeted youth in the age group of 15-35 years as respondents.

Based on the findings, the study presents policy recommendations to empower the youth of Karnataka. KJA is glad to present the findings and recommendations to all the concerned stakeholders for consideration.

I thank Dr. Sandeep Shastri, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Jain University, Bangalore for carrying out this mega study. I also thank the Principal Secretary and other officers of the Department of Higher Education for their kind support. A special thanks goes to the Youth of the State for their kind support during the survey. My thanks also to the youth representatives who had attended our stakeholders' consultation meetings. I am thankful to the staff and research associates of KJA for all the hard work put in to accomplish this study.

I hope and wish that the findings of the study would provide inputs to youth policy formulation by the state of Karnataka.

30th March, 2011

Prof. M.K. Sridhar, Ph.D.,
Member Secretary & Executive Director
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Government of Karnataka.

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Study on Perceptions, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of Youth in Karnataka

Bengaluru

March 2011

Final report submitted by the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSSE) Jain University to the Karnataka Jnana Aayoga

The study showcases the attitudes and perceptions of the youth in the state and provides the government and other policy analysts, data with regard to the aims, aspirations, attitudes and priorities of the youth of the State. This would help in aligning government policies which have implications for the youth of the state.

Chapter 1

Introduction

The study of the perceptions, aspirations, attitudes and expectations of the youth in Karnataka aims at providing a snapshot of the `world` of the youth in the State. It is a window to understand what the youth think, why they think the way they do and how does society respond to their hopes, aspirations and perceptions. This is the first state-wide and exclusive survey based study of the perception of young people. It is hoped that these findings will help policy makers understand the `vision` and `world view` of a new generation in the state. It also provides an insight to understand the attitude and ways of thinking of the younger generation.

1.1: Why this Study?

Unlike many other countries, India has a `young` society. Many western countries have an increasingly `ageing` population. Karnataka in that sense represents a microcosm of the country. By undertaking an in-depth study of the youth in Karnataka we would be developing an important and path breaking case study. The study is multi-track and taps different dimensions of the `life` and `times` of young people in the state. The basic instrument of the study – the questionnaire, was developed after a comprehensive dialogue with different stake holders, especially young people, whose world the study hopes to portray.

It was decided that the study would cover young people in the state in the 15 to 34 age group. The lower age limit was chosen as it was felt that the survey method of eliciting information would not be suitable for those below that age. The upper limit was fixed keeping in mind the yardstick used by the Government to define who are the youth.

The objectives of the present study include:

a) Understand the perceptions of youth in Karnataka today

b) Measure the aspirations of the youth in Karnataka today

c) Tap the expectations of the youth in Karnataka today

d) Explore the attitudes of the youth in Karnataka today

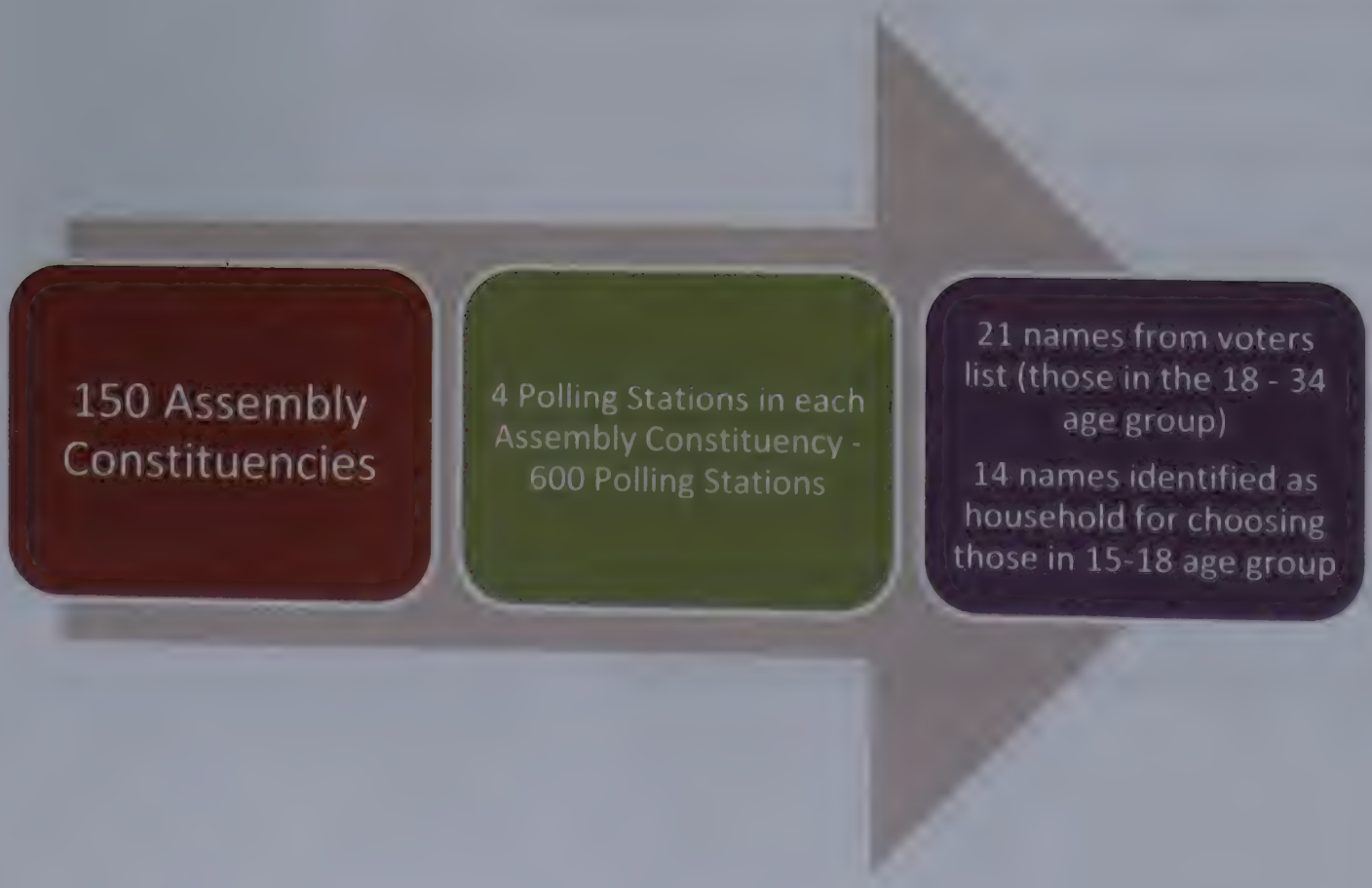
1.2: Methodology

The study was primarily undertaken through the survey instrument.

With an achieved sample size of 8999, the survey was conducted in 150 Assembly Constituencies spread across the state chosen by the method of circular random sampling The survey was conducted in July-August 2010. In each of the 150 Assembly Constituencies, four polling stations were selected using the method of random circular sampling. A total of 600 polling stations were thus selected. In each of the 600 polling stations, 21 names were identified from the voters list, again by method of circular sampling choosing a random first number. The target sample size was 12600. Of these, a total of 8999 interviews were completed. To interview those in the 18-34 age group, the voters list from the selected polling station was used. 14 names were identified from the voters list using systematic random sampling method.

Diagram 1.1

Choosing the Sample


150 Assembly Constituencies
4 Polling Stations in each Assembly Constituency - 600 Polling Stations
21 names from voters list (those in the 18 - 34 age group)
14 names identified as household for choosing those in 15-18 age group

To interview those in the 15-18 age group, 7 names were drawn from the voters list of the said polling booths by means of systematic random sampling method. These seven were then treated as households and from each of these households a youth in the age group of 15 to 18 was selected. Alternatively, a boy and girl were selected.

A review of the profile of the sample indicates that it mirrors the larger universe it was meant to represent.

Table 1.1 : Age Profile

Age	Percentage
Less than 18	26
18 to 21	10
22 to 25	17
26 to 30	27
31 to 35	20

n – 8999

Table 1.2 :Gender Profile

Gender	Percentage
Female	48
Male	52

n – 8999

Table 1.3 : Occupation

Category	Percentage
Student	38
Employed	32
Homemaker	16
Job seeker	14

n – 8999

Table 1.4 : Religion Profile

Religion	Percentage
Hindu	81
Muslim	13
Christian	4
Others	2

n-8999

Table 1.5 : Socio Economic Status

Socio-Economic Status (SES)	Percentage
Very Low	7
Low	34
Middle	40
High	19

n – 8999

Table 1. 6: Caste Profile

Caste	Percentage
Scheduled Castes	21
Scheduled Tribes	8
Non Dominant OBCs	32
Dominant Caste	26
Forward Castes	13

Table 1.7 : Place of Residence

Place of Residence	Percentage
Metro	3
City (> 1 lakh)	11
Town (Below 1 lakh)	20
Village	66

n – 8999

Each interview was face-to-face and on the basis of a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire was prepared (after a detailed round of discussions) in Kannada and then translated to English. The field investigators underwent rigorous training in survey research techniques before being sent to the field. All the field investigators were post-graduate degree holders or doing their post-graduation in one of the social science discipline domains.

Once the survey was conducted, the data was entered. On completion of data entry and cleaning of the data, a research team analyzed the findings. The interim report was submitted in the second week of November 2010, on Children's Day. The interim report was subjected to detailed analysis and discussion among the stake holders. A special one day interaction session was organized on 7th December 2010. Based on the discussion and more sophisticated analysis of data, a final report has now been prepared and is being submitted.

1.3: Strategy for data analysis

The questions posed in the survey questionnaire are divided into 5 categories – perceptions, aspirations, behaviour, expectations and attitudes. The study probes at both the personal/familial level and at the socio-economic and political level.

All the questions in the behaviour category are analysed using background variables. They are also excellent variables to analyze other attitudinal questions. The analysis looked for disaggregates as much as possible - on regional, caste and socio economic levels. It also examines variations across almost all possible background variables.

The four rubrics of perception, aspiration, expectation and attitude have been interpreted as follows.

Perceptions

Perceptions relate to both the perception of self - a sort of positioning of oneself in the gamut of socio – political interrelated externalities as also a perception of facts, issues and people beyond the same who partially or fully share these socio – political relations. By putting these questions together we look at a dialectic relationship between the individual and the socio – political and how the individual's world is formed by the perception of larger issues which are determined in turn through the very position he/ she occupies in the social matrix.

Aspirations

Aspiration here is interpreted at an individual level. It has this distant - almost dream like, quality. It definitely relates to transition and transition for the better. Aspirations of the youth can present themselves as a very effective frame through which one can analyse how the processes of liberalization and globalization are defining and deciding the choices young make across regions.

Expectations

Expectations can also be viewed as expectations from oneself but largely the analysis focuses on expectations of youth from the political/governance institutions and society. It relates to all expectations ranging from civic / political in nature to the cultural/social. They also hint at political assertions at a collective level.

Attitudes

Attitude here is measured through the prism of opinions. This section relates to the opinion of youth on major socio-economic and political issues specific to their society and context.

In order to capture all the above dimensions and present the same in a cogent manner, the study has been divided into seven thematic chapters. The first chapter is introductory in nature and outlines the methodology and the sample profile. The second chapter focuses on family, friends and beyond. The third chapter discusses the hopes and aspirations, trials and tribulations of the youth. The fourth chapter taps the life style choices of young people. The fifth chapter outlines the perspectives of young people on governance, politics and economy. The sixth chapter looks at the perceptions of young people on matters relating to employment. The seventh chapter unveils a new generations vision for Karnataka. The eight chapter summarizes the broad findings. The ninth chapter outlines the policy recommendations flowing from this report. There is an Annexure which includes the survey methodology details, the survey instrument and timelines for the study.

1.4: Expected Outcomes

The study would help understand the attitudes and perceptions of the youth in the state and would provide government and other policy analysts data with regard to the aims, aspirations, attitudes and priorities of the youth of the State. This would help in aligning government policies which have implications for the youth of the state.

Chapter 2

Family, Friends and Beyond

It is clearly evident that youth in Karnataka are symbols of continuity with change when it comes to their social relationships and the emphasis they place on family and social traditions. This is in consonance with the tradition in the state and the belief in retaining the best elements of the past as one moves forward and also in aligning oneself to the changing reality and requirements of time.

Indian tradition has deeply valued – and celebrated, the `family`. How does a new younger generation of young people In Karnataka perceive this institution? This chapter makes an attempt to assess the impact and influence of family and friends on the lives of the youth in the state. Several questions in the survey sought to tap the attitudes of youth on crucial indicators of family life and their circle of friends. The analysis of the same is presented in this chapter.

2.1 : Centrality of the role of the family in the life of the youth

How important is family in the lives of Karnataka youth? There was clearly overwhelming support for this important institution among the younger generation in the state. More than eight out of every ten young people felt that one needed a family in order to be happy in life. Interestingly, the importance of family was stressed much more by youth who lived in metropolitan areas[1] as compared to those in villages and towns. This should calm the nerves of those who were concerned with the assertion that urban India and Indians were increasingly not acknowledging the importance of this institution.

There was little variation in the response of youth across the state on this question. Both young men and women, those from different education levels and from different economic status[2] all thought alike on the question. The greater emphasis on the family by the youth living in urban areas may be a reflection of the reality of nuclear families in these spaces. The extended family having more interactions continues to be a reality in rural Karnataka and this seems to be reflected in their attitudes towards the family.

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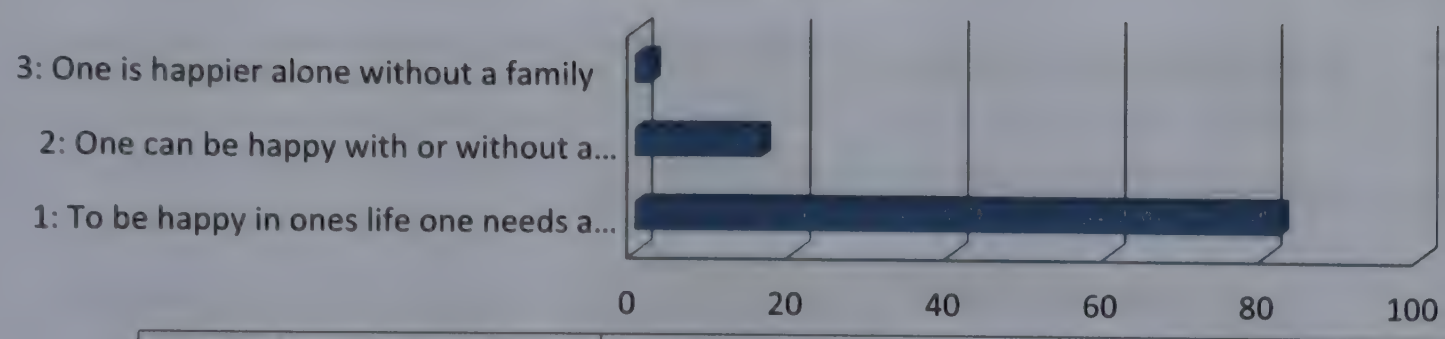
[1] In this study, the distinction is not made only between rural and urban. The data analysis showed significant variations between towns, cities and metropolitan areas (classification based on Census). As a result, in this study place of residence is classified under four heads – village, town, cities and metropolitan Bengaluru.

[2] Socio Economic Status (SES) is classified in a complex way combining a wide range of variables : Respondent education, Father's Education, Mother's Education, Kind of school i.e. government or private, Place of education i.e. village, town, city, Kind of house in city and village, Total monthly income and Assets.

Table/Chart 2.1



	1: To be happy in ones life one needs a family	2: One can be happy with or without a family	3: One is happier alone without a family
Series1	82	16	2

n - 8829

Importance OF Family

This is about Miss Bhargavi (name changed) aged 16, a student, from a small town... both of whose parents completed school but had to discontinue studies because of family related problems.

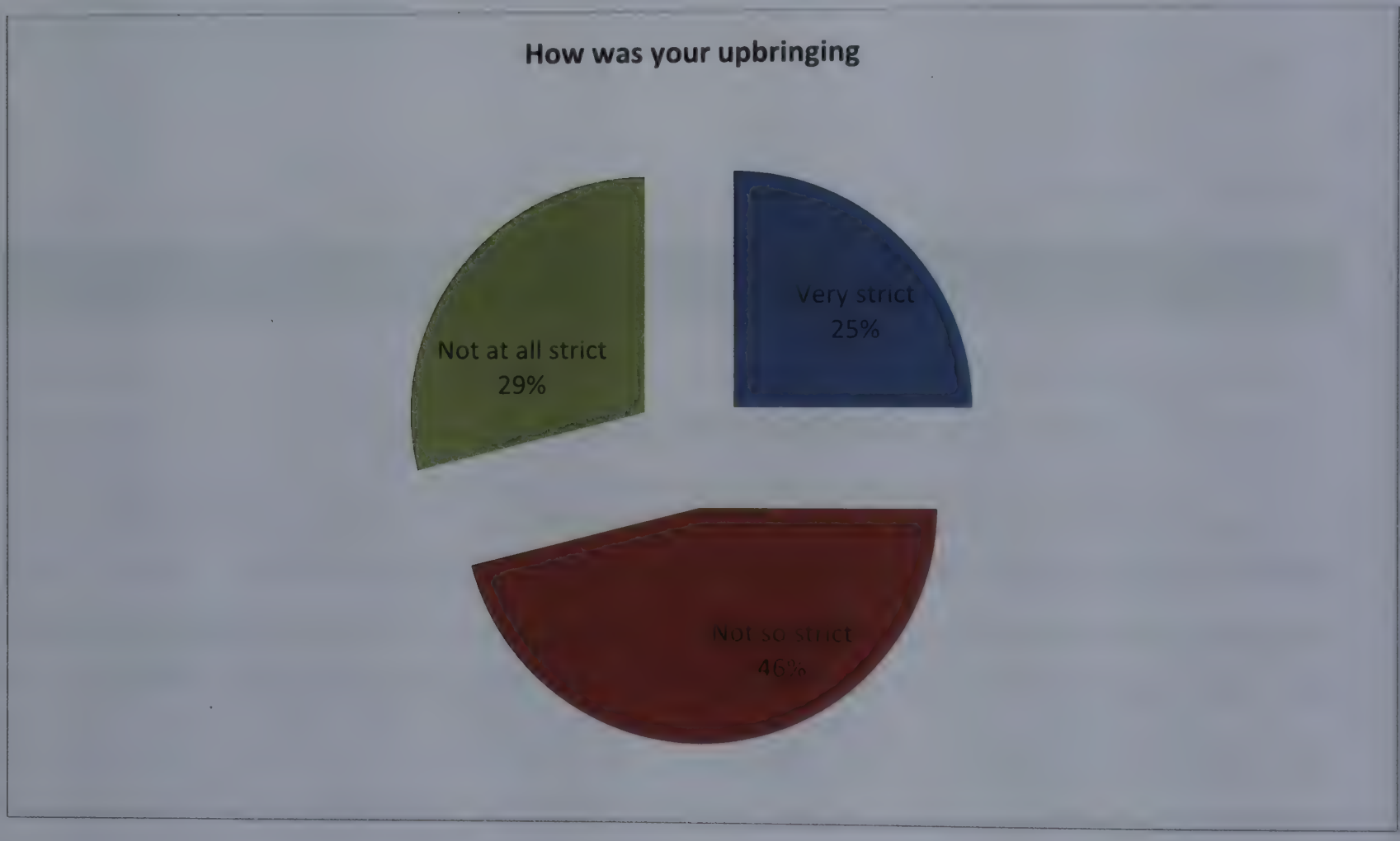
Bhargavi says that irrespective of their financial status, she appreciates the 'value system' prevalent in her family which was not altered even after their financial status improved. She credits her mother for ingraining her with a strong value system, whose importance she has come to realize and appreciate. She says she shares a very warm relationship with her parents. She gives credit to her mother for her value system and her father for his astuteness in financial matters. The financial status ensured no household chores but chores in the family business were obligatory or expected. Being a 'female' member did not create any restrictions in involvement. She mentions very fondly that because of her mother's hospitality the house has frequent guests and she learnt the nuances of a fine host. She believes that though having a privileged background her father always brought her up 'responsibly'.

(From Case Study : `My Parents` CERRSE)

2.2: How was your upbringing .....how would you bring up the next generation?

How did the youth in the state respond to the question on their upbringing? They were offered a menu of three options: very strict, not so strict and not at all strict. Each young person was allowed to define what they meant by strict or not so strict. One fourth of the youth said that their upbringing was very strict. Close to half the respondents opined that their upbringing was not so strict while the balance averred that they were brought up in a very lenient manner.

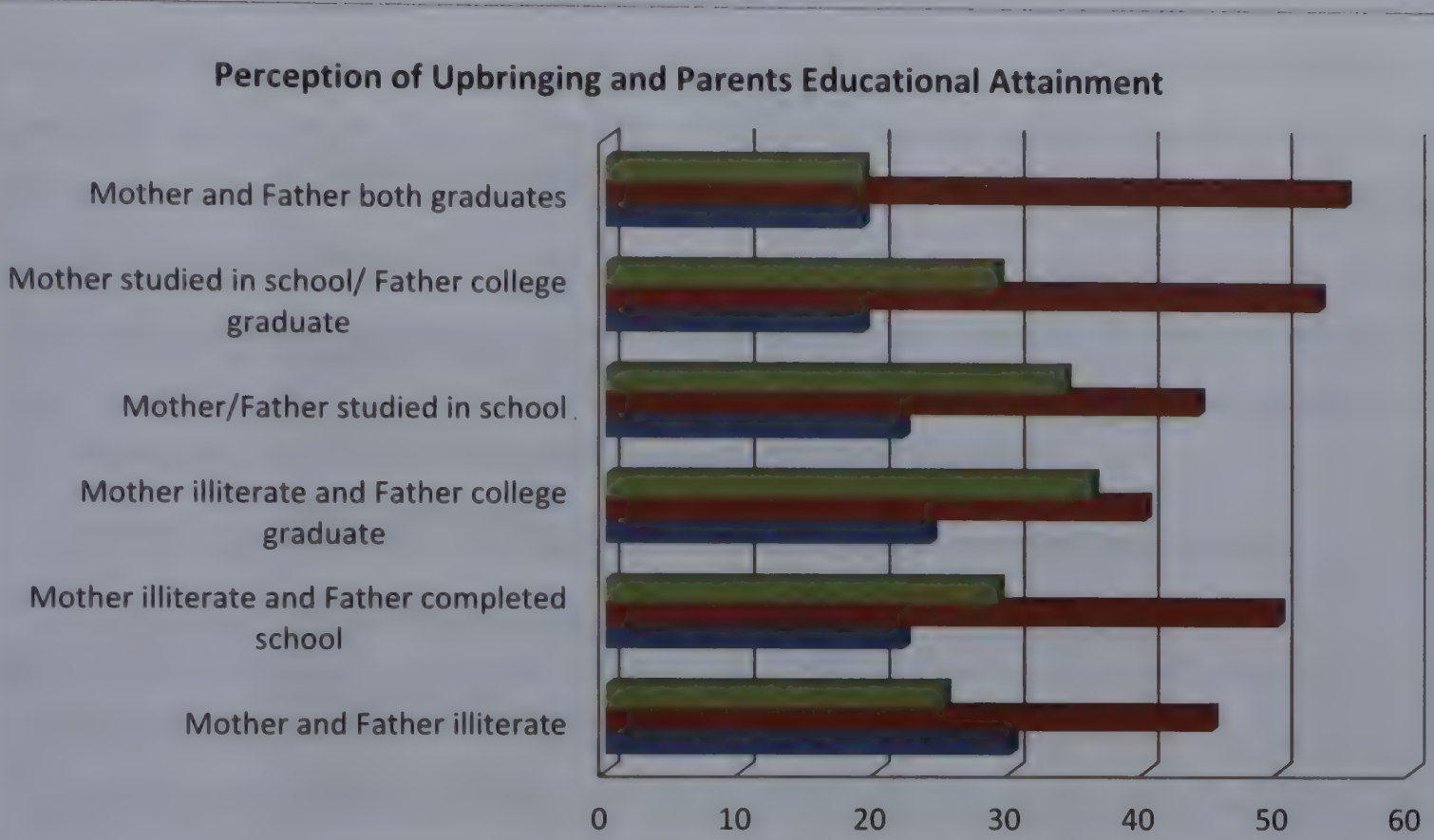
Table/Chart 2.2



n - 8521

Did the level of educational attainment of the parent's influence the upbringing of young people in the state? It is evident that the educational attainment of the mother did play a role. The higher the mother's level of educational attainment the less likely was it that young people would report a strict upbringing.

Table/Chart 2.3



	Mother and Father illiterate	Mother illiterate and Father completed school	Mother illiterate and Father college graduate	Mother/Father studied in school	Mother studied in school/ Father college graduate	Mother and Father both graduates
Not strict at all	25	29	36	34	29	19
Not so strict	45	50	40	44	53	55
Very strict	30	22	24	22	19	19

n - 8521

What is interesting is the response of young people tò the question: Would you bring up your children in the same manner as you were brought up or would you bring them up differently? More than two-thirds of the respondents stated that they would like to bring up their children differently. Fair enough! This may be a reflection of an urge for change which often symbolizes the way young people think. More than half of those who had a strict upbringing said that they would create the same environment for

their children. Only one fourth of those who had a strict upbringing would like to bring up their children differently. Only one in every ten youth who had a lenient upbringing would like to replicate the same with their children, implying that an overwhelmingly larger number in this category would like to bring up their children differently. We are assuming here that differently implies more strictly. However, a dialogue with young people indicated that differently could verily mean more leniently too[3]! It could also imply that given the experience that young people had with their upbringing the desire to usher in a change (often for the sake of a change) may have prompted many to say that they would like to change the way they would being up their children. As it is said, the more things change the more they remain the same!

There is no significant difference in the response to this question among respondents of different age groups or between young men and women. Those among the youth who are parents themselves, those in their 30s and those still under parental supervision think alike on this question. There is a marginal difference in response, if those living in rural areas and those in town and cities are segregated. Those in urban areas tended to assert that they would bring up their children very differently while those in villages were more likely to prefer to bring up their children in the same manner that they were raised. Further access to education appeared to make a difference. Those who had the benefit of college education were more likely to believe that they would bring up their children differently. Similarly SES (socio-economic status) too appeared to bring in a difference in response. With rise in economic status, respondents were more likely to state that they would bring up their children differently. It needs to be stressed that differently can be assumed to be moving only in a particular direction. It only implies only differently from what was experienced and this may well be a reflection of the desire among the young to do things differently. It also implies that greater exposure to the world possibly broadens the horizons of young people on a range of issues.

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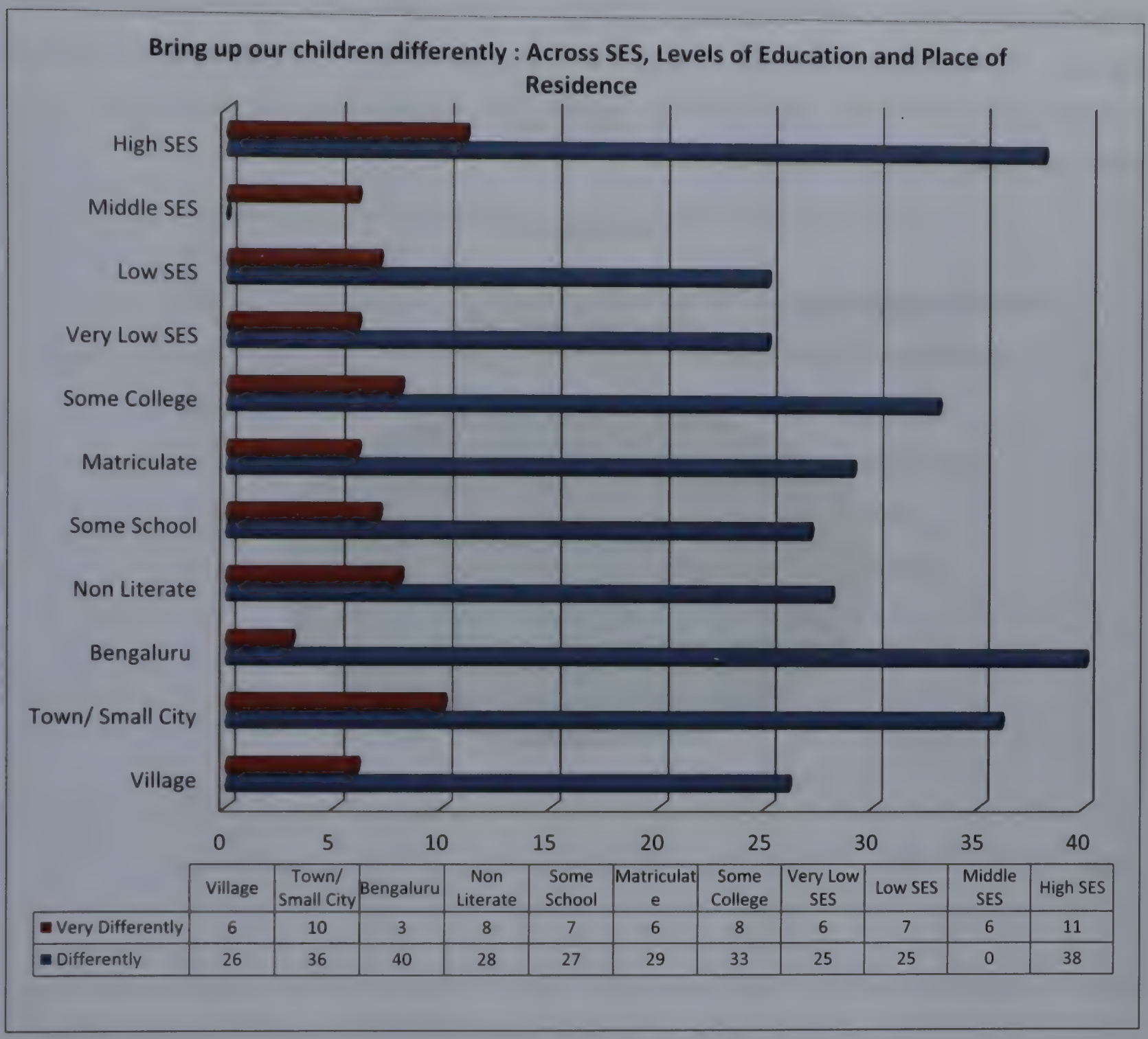
[3] The Principal Coordinator of the Survey would like to thank his students for having brought up this issue during a classroom discussion.

Table/Chart 2.4



	Village	Town/ Small City	Bengaluru	Non Literate	Some School	Matriculate	Some College	Very Low SES	Low SES	Middle SES	High SES
Very Differently	6	10	3	8	7	6	8	6	7	6	11
Differently	26	36	40	28	27	29	33	25	25	0	38

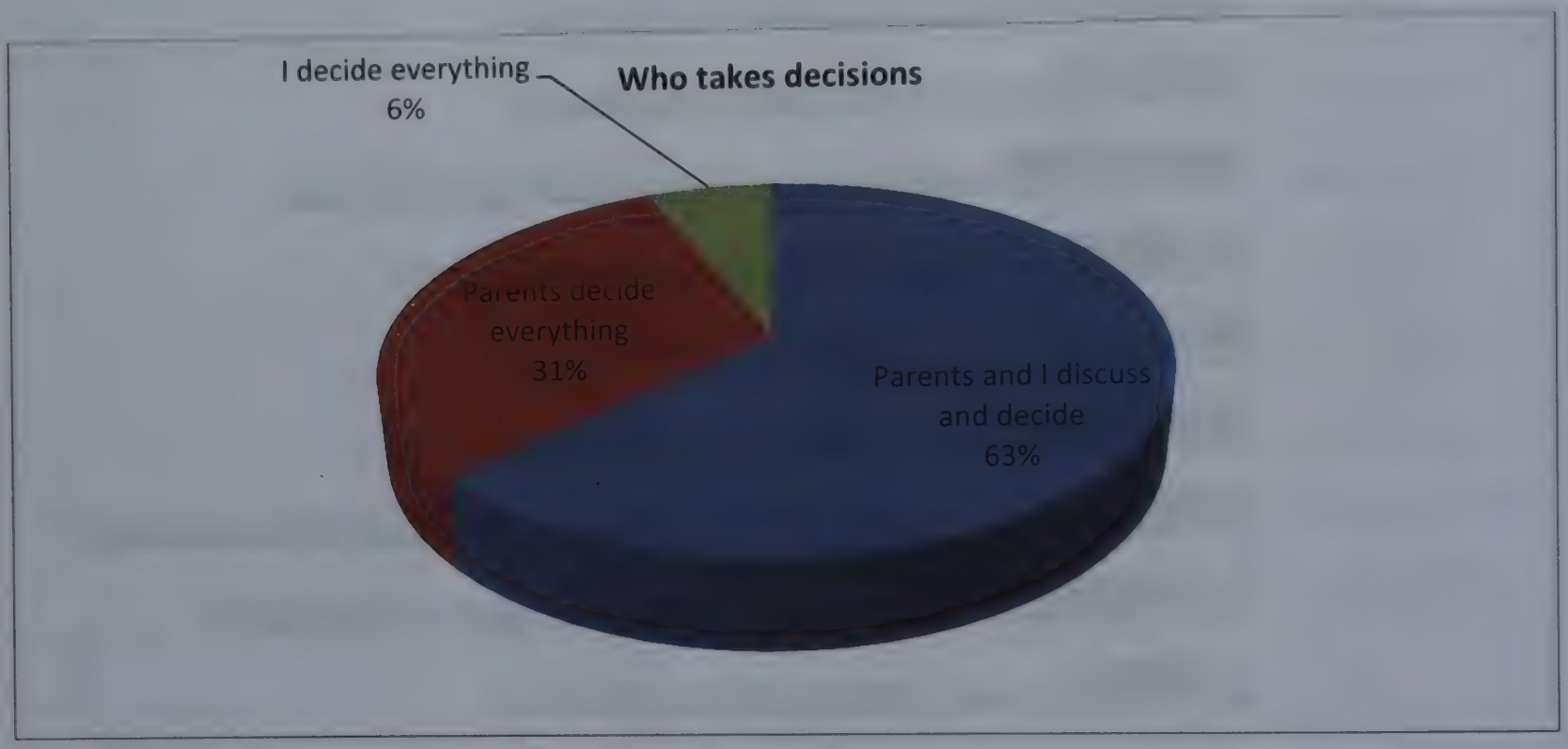
n = 8615

2.3: Autonomy in decision making

How much autonomy do youth in the state enjoy in their decision making? The response to this question would be closely linked to the nature and importance of the family. Three of every ten youth stated that their parents decide everything. Two thirds of the respondents asserted that they arrived at decisions

after discussing the same with their parents. Very few stated that they take decisions on their own. This is clearly indicative of the role and influence of the parents in the life and decision making of youth in the state. It is also a reflection of the experience of a democratic environment at home given the fact that more than two thirds of young people asserted that they participated in the decision making process on issues relating to their lives.

Table/ Chart 2.5



n-8749

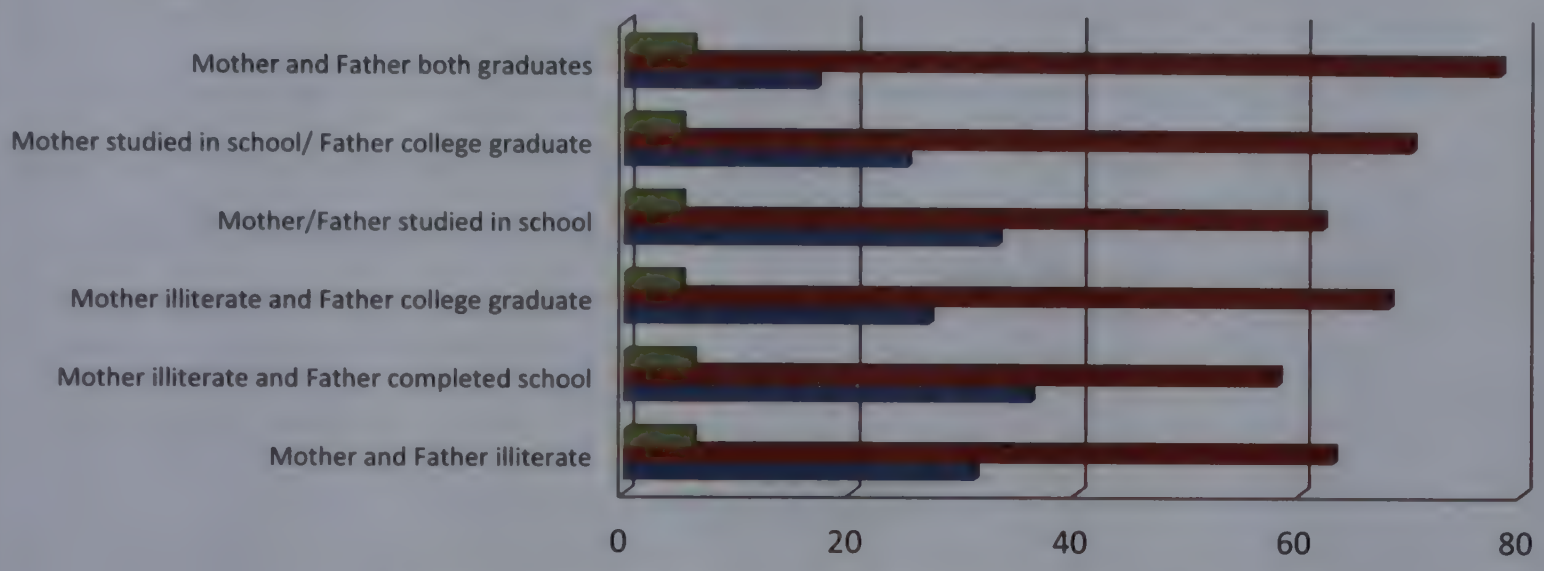
There is no significant variation across age groups. Those in the 15 to 18 age group did not think very differently from those in the 30 to 34 age group. Interestingly, there is not much of a gender difference when young people responded to this question. Marriage only marginally increases a young person's, autonomy. Even after marriage, parents appear to influence the decision making of their children. When controlled by gender the married man has slightly more autonomy than married woman. This again is a reflection of reality as seen in the society of today.

Does the educational level of the parent/s impact on the autonomy in decision making of young people? While a higher level of educational attainment of the father does result in greater autonomy in decision

making among children, the mothers educational level appears to have a direct impact. A higher educational attainment of the mother the more likely that decisions involving youngsters are less likely to be unilaterally taken by the parents.

Table/Chart 2.6

Autonomy in Decision Making and Educatonal Attainment of Parents



	Mother and Father illiterate	Mother illiterate and Father completed school	Mother illiterate and Father college graduate	Mother/Father studied in school	Mother studied in school/ Father college graduate	Mother and Father both graduates
I decide everything alone	6	6	5	5	5	6
Parents and I discuss together	63	58	68	62	70	78
My parents decide everything	31	36	27	33	25	17

n-8749

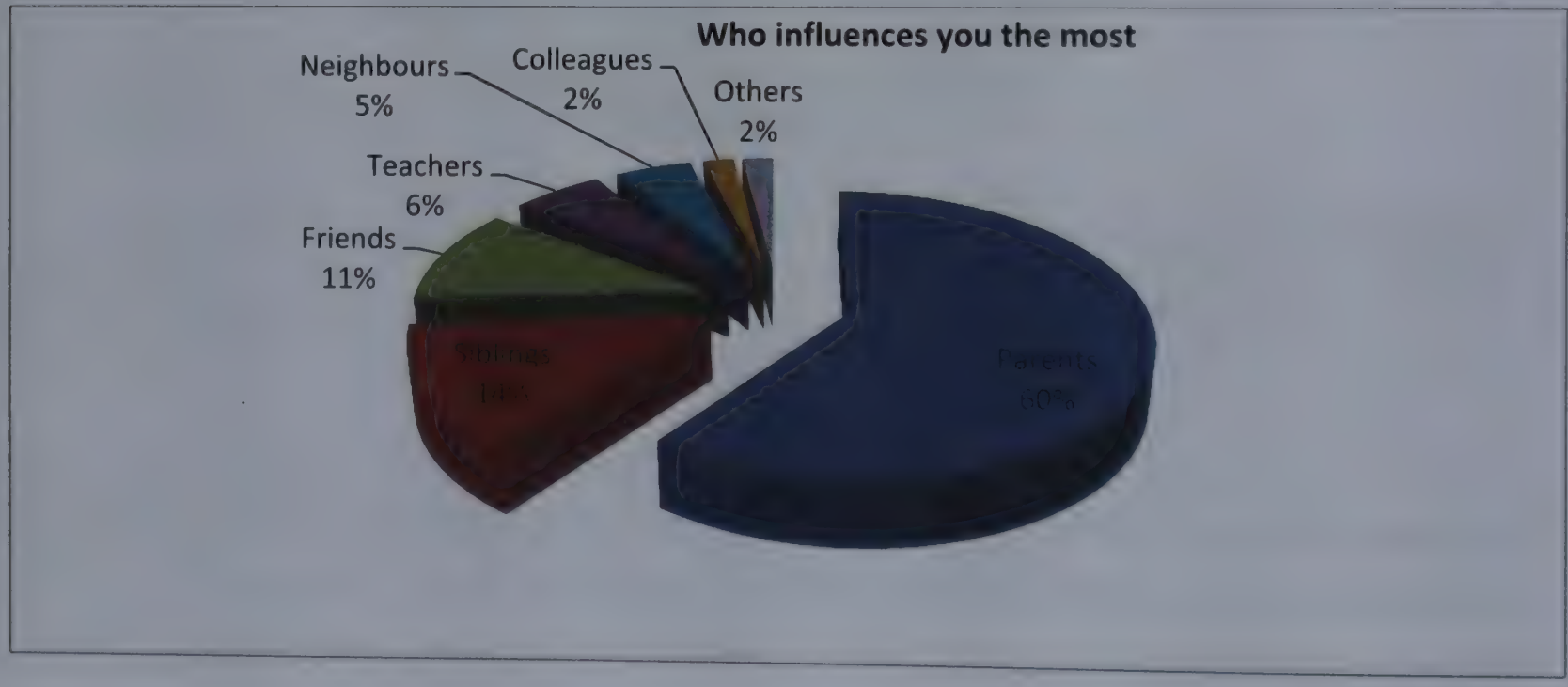
It is also noticed that one's employment status appears to make a difference in the level autonomy in decision making. Those working are less likely to say that my parents take all decisions and tend to endorse joint decision making. This is again a reflection of the greater autonomy that financial independence produces.

In this context, it would be useful to consider whether young people are concerned about being in a position to maintain and carry on family traditions. It is important to record that rural youth were quite

tense on this fact. Close to two-thirds did have anxieties about being able to maintain their family traditions. In cities, less than two of every ten young respondents had tensions and anxieties about the same. There was not much variation across age and gender on this question. The anxiety of young people in rural areas about their capacity to maintain family traditions is a response to the changes, challenges and influences that young people are today exposed to in these areas. It must be asserted that many of these family traditions would require to be realigned in keeping with the demands of time. It is inevitable that with increasing influence of modernity spreading across rural Karnataka, young people are on the horns of a dilemma about maintaining and furthering family traditions.

2.4: Who influence young people the most?

Table/ Chart 2.7



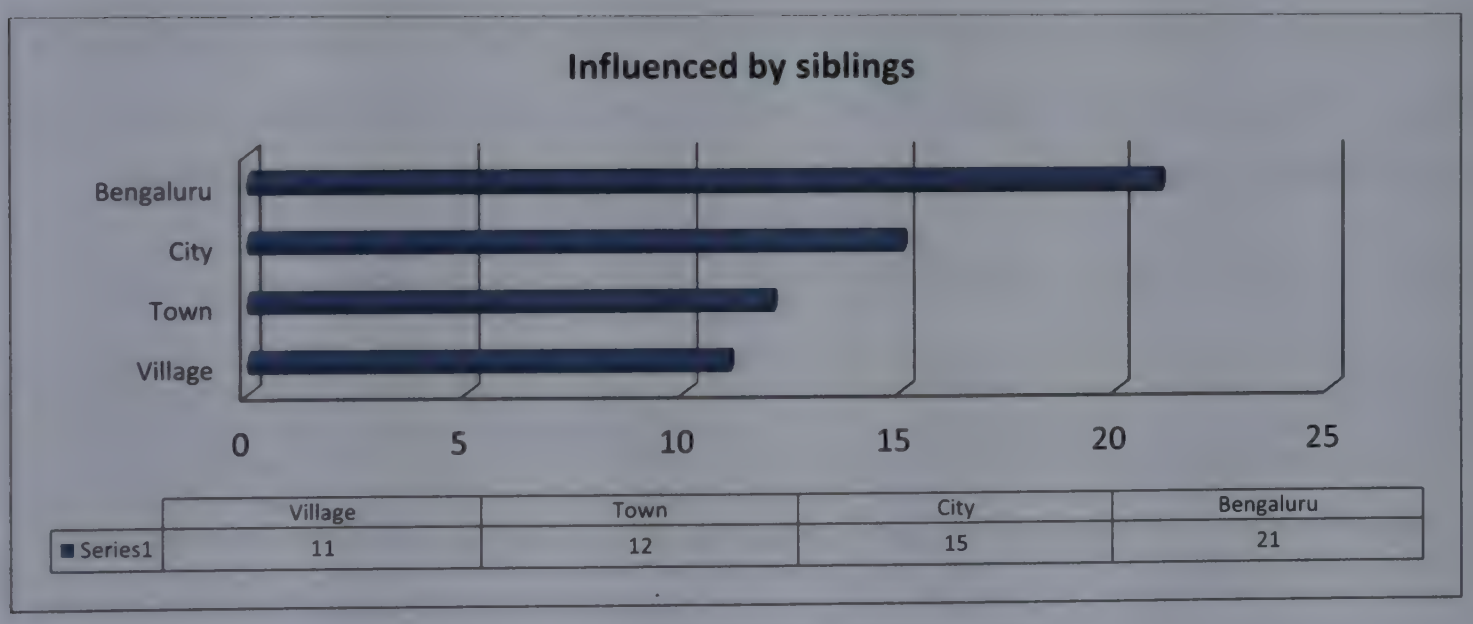
n- 8853

If the circle of influence of young people were to be drawn, it is noticed that close to six of every ten youth say that the greatest influence over them is that of their parents. Another fourteen percent

pointed out to the role of siblings. Thus, close to three-fourths of the youth indicate that a family member is the one who influences them the most. Among the others who tended to influence young people in the state were friends, teachers and neighbours. One of every ten youth identified friends as the most important influence. Six percent mentioned a teacher as a crucial influence and five percent took the name of a neighbour.

Parental influence seems to reduce in urban areas as compared to rural locales. Just over half the youth in metropolitan Bengaluru said that the greatest influence in their life was that of their parents. In rural areas the percentage of respondents who gave that answer was much higher. In metropolitan Bengaluru, the role of siblings as the key influence increases. This could be a reflection of the nature and quantum of time that parents in Bengaluru city are able to spend with their children. It is also an assertion of the role of siblings as part of the support system of young people in urban areas.

Table / Chart 2.8



n - 1122

In Bengaluru, two of every ten youth stated that their siblings were the most important influence. Similarly, friends seem to have a much greater role in urban areas as influencers as compared to rural locations. Teachers as an influence is more pronounced in urban areas as compared to rural areas. On

the other hand, neighbours are more likely to be enumerated as influencers by rural youth as compared to urban youth.

The influence of parents is the highest among youth is in the 15 to 19 age group. It is significantly lower among youth in their 20s. The importance of friends as influencers clearly rises in the youth in the 20-24 age group. Friends are clearly a much greater influence among young men than among young women.

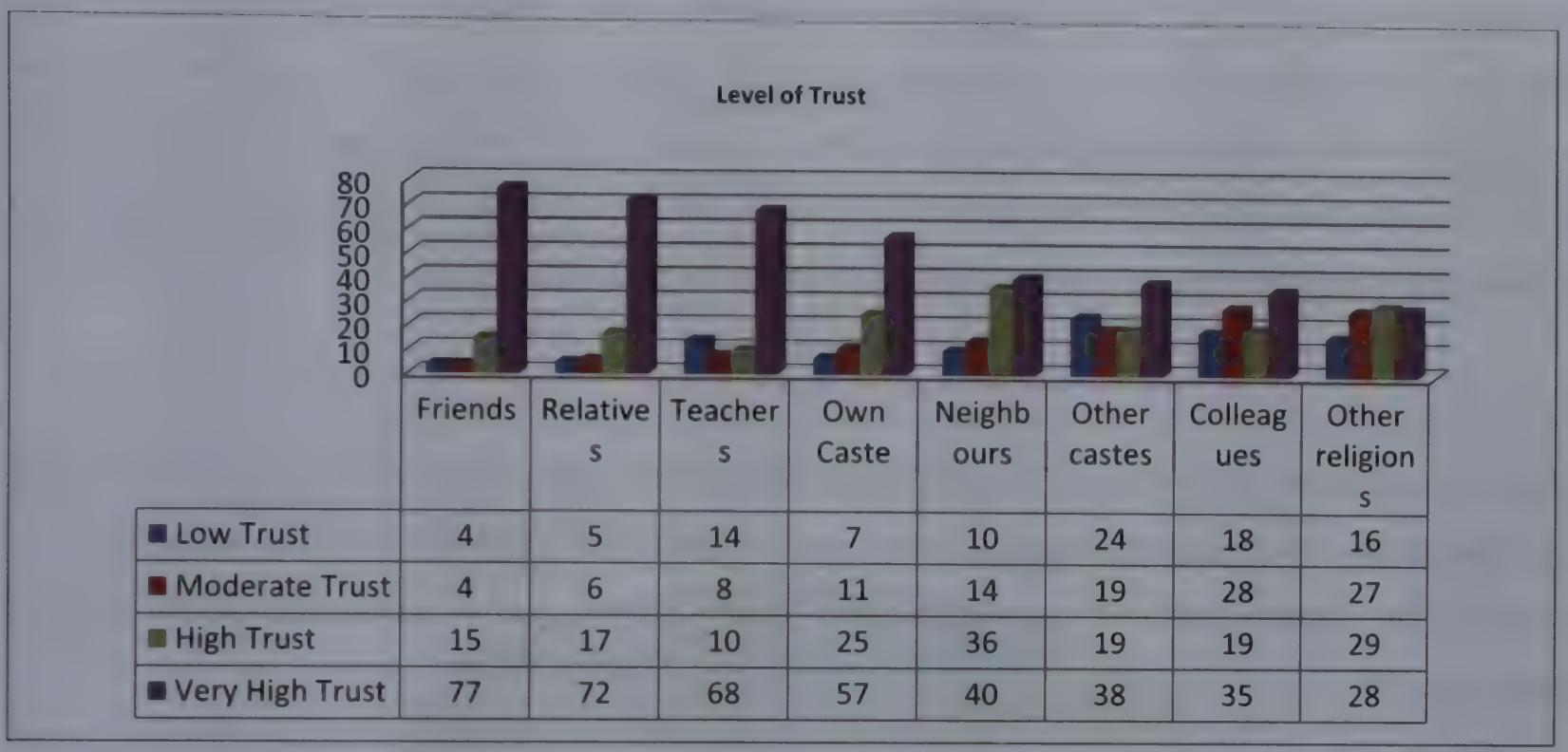
2.4: Whom do youth trust?

Among those who are part of their immediate social circle, whom do the youth in Karnataka trust? A list of potential social contacts, were listed out. They included friends, relations, colleagues, teachers, those of one's own caste, those of other castes, those of one's own religion and those from other religions. Respondents were asked to identify the level of trust they had in each of them on a scale of 1 to 10. To undertake a more meaningful analysis of the `world of social trust` of Karnataka youth, it would be useful to delineate the level of trust expressed on each of the indicators that were specified.

Topping the list of people that Karnatala youth trusted were friends. More than three-fourths of the youth placed them in the very high level of trust band. They were followed by relations. Seven of every ten respondents placed relations in this band category. In the case of both friends and relations, more than nine of every ten youth, expressed high level or very high level of trust. Teachers evoked a very high level of trust among two-thirds of the respondents. A little over half the respondents, reposed very high level of trust in those who belonged to their own caste. Four of every ten youth expressed very high degree of trust in neighbours and over one third of youth expressed the same level of trust (very high) in colleagues and those from other castes. A little over one fourth expressed high level of trust in those from other religions. In all the categories, more than half the youth expressed very high or high level of trust. The level of trust is a direct corollary to the nature of contacts and frequency of those

contacts of young people. Given the fact that young people tend to spend more time with friends and relations, they rank high in their order of trust.

Table/Chart 2.9



	Friends	Relatives	Teachers	Own Caste	Neighbours	Other castes	Colleagues	Other religions
Low Trust	4	5	14	7	10	24	18	16
Moderate Trust	4	6	8	11	14	19	28	27
High Trust	15	17	10	25	36	19	19	29
Very High Trust	77	72	68	57	40	38	35	28

n – 8117

When it came to those of their own caste, more than half the youth expressed a very high degree of trust in them, while a little over one fourth expressed a high degree of trust in them. Less than two in every ten expressed a low degree/moderate degree of trust in those of their own caste. When it came to those from other castes, a little over one-thirds of the youth expressed high level of trust in them. One fourth of the young people in the state expressed a low level of trust in those who hailed from other castes. Overall, more than half the youth expressed high or very high level of trust in those from other castes. Is there any difference in response if the caste of the respondent was taken into account? Tribal youth expressed a higher degree of trust in those from their own caste as compared to youth from other social sections. Close to half the tribal youth living in towns and cities expressed low or moderate trust in those from other castes. In the case of the OBC youth in the villages, more than half of them expressed moderate or low trust in those from other castes. The same was true of youth from the forward castes in both villages and the small towns and cities. In metropolitan Bengaluru, irrespective of

the social group that they belonged to, very few among them expressed a low or moderate trust in those who did not belong to their social group.

When it came to those from other religions, the level of trust demonstrated was among the lowest. One fourth expressed a very high level of trust in those from other religions and three out of ten said that they had a high level of trust in those from other religions. Over four of every ten expressed moderate or low trust in those from other religions. A majority of the young people living in towns and cities, from the two significant minority communities in the state (Muslims and Christians), expressed moderate or low level of trust in those belonging to religions other than theirs.

Given the socializing pattern in our society, the tendency to trust those from other castes and religions less than those from their own caste and religion only reflects the reality of interaction of the youth in the state. The pattern seen in Karnataka conforms to the all India pattern as revealed in the national study of youth[4].

2.5: Circle of Friends

Given the popular belief that the `circle of friends` are crucial in the social lives of young people, the study attempted to tap the friends of young people in Karnataka from three different perspectives. The survey asked respondents to identify how many from among the five close friends, hailed from the opposite sex, other castes and other religions?

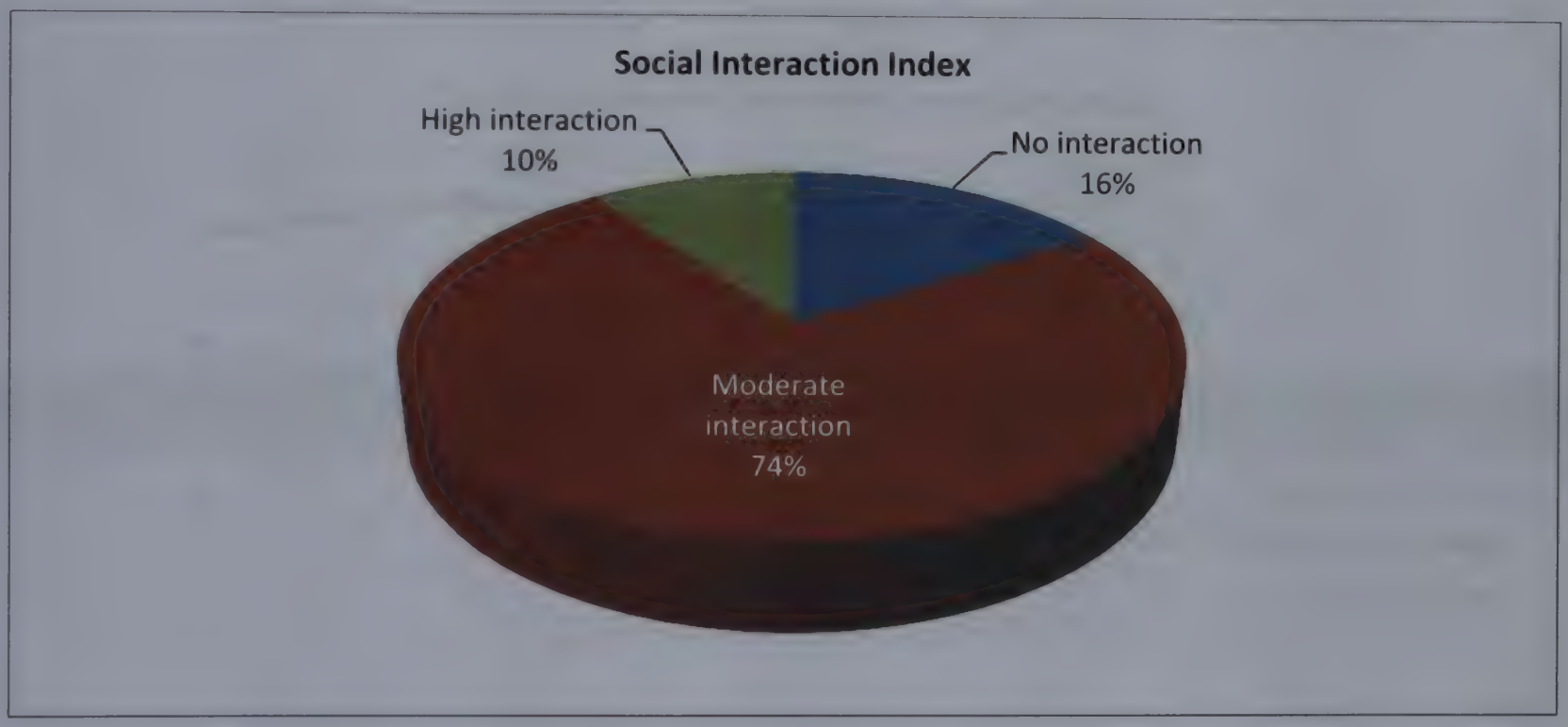
The question attempted to elicit whether the circle of friends went beyond the `traditional circle` or remained well within it. Based on the response, a comprehensive index of social interaction was

[4] An All India survey based study of the youth was undertaken by Lokniti, Centre for Study of Developing Societies, Delhi which is published as a book titled `Indian Youth in a Transforming World` edited by Peter de Souza, Sanjay Kumar and Sandeep Shastri, Sage 2009. Hereinafter referred to as the All India Youth Study

developed. Responses were clubbed under three broad categories: No interaction, moderate interaction and high interaction.

It was found that three fourths of young people had some friends from the opposite gender, other castes and religions in their close circle of friends. Close to sixteen percent reported having no friends from these three categories among their close circle of friends. One of every ten had many friends from these three categories among their friends circle.

Table/Chart 2.10



n - 8490

Young men tended to have more friends among their close circle of confidants from these three categories as compared to young women. The likelihood of having friends from the opposite sex or castes and religions other than your own, increased with access to education. If the SES of the respondents were taken into account, it was those from the middle class that were more likely to have greater interaction with the three categories of friends as compared to those belonging to Higher or Lower socio-economic status.

Place of residence was an important indicator of the composition of the close circle of friends. It would have been commonly assumed that those from a city like Bengaluru would have a wide circle of friends hailing from the opposite sex and from castes and religions different from their own. The study indicates otherwise. Those from small towns and cities tended to have more friends from these categories. Towns are clearly at the cusp of social change. In fact those in villages too, tended to have more friends from these categories as compared to those in Bengaluru. Over one fourth of the youth, in Bengaluru, reported having no friends from these categories among their close circle of friends.

Table/Chart 2.11

Social Interaction Index and Place of Residence

	Village	Town	City	Bengaluru
No interaction	17	14	11	26
Moderate interaction	73	74	82	71
High Interaction	10	12	7	3

n - 8490

A more meaningful analysis of the world of the Karnataka youth becomes possible when the circle of friends in each of three categories is assessed separately. Youth in Karnataka are more likely to have friends from the opposite gender much more than those from other religions and castes.

Over one fourth of the youth reported having three or more friends from the opposite gender from among their close circle of friends. Six of every ten reported at least one or two friends from the opposite sex among their close friends. Among the youth who were still studying and those in the age group of 15 to 24 tended to be more likely in the high interaction/ some interaction category when it came to those from the opposite gender. Unmarried youth reported more friends from the opposite

gender as compared to those who were married. Girls tended to identify a lesser number of friends from the opposite sex as their close friends as compared to boys. Close to three of every ten from the lower SES, reported no interaction with those from the opposite gender.

Table/Chart 2.12

	Opposite Gender	Other Castes	Other Religions
High Interaction	25	18	7
Some Interaction	60	70	69
No Interaction	15	12	24

n - 8490

Friends Circle

Mr Ashok (name changed) 20 yrs old Pursuing a diploma in industrial engineering

The youngest of three siblings, in a family of four, Ashok's father is a daily wage labourer and mother is a homemaker. Parents are illiterate and the only time (as per his view) this proved to be inconvenient was when recently he had to apply for a bank loan and required his parent's signature. He was not interested in studies and after PUC managed to acquire a seat in an Industrial training centre. He has learnt to generate his own funds by doing odd jobs. One of the easiest and frequent jobs he does is washing cars in the apartment blocks. In this way he managed to buy a cell phone, acquire mobile currency, go on short trips with his friends buy the latest fashions. Though his parents do not mind his taking care of his own 'luxuries' he understands that they do disapprove of several of them and would have instead appreciated his making a long term saving. He names only three boys of his own age and background as his close friends the rest he regards as convenient acquaintances for work related opportunities or for socialization. All of his close friends come from similar backgrounds and therefore understand each others circumstances and aspirations. His considers them as a safe and dependable support system He claims to be a natural leader among his friends in the social circle and at college. In his social friends circle he arranges and decides their entertainment modes and venues.

(From Case Study My Friends Circle CERSSE)

The highest reporting of friends from the opposite gender was not in the Higher SES but in the Middle class. It would have been expected that youth from Bengaluru city would report the highest number of friends in ones circle of friends from among the opposite gender. Not necessarily true! Eight of every ten youth in the city reported one or two friends from the opposite gender among their close circle of friends. On the other hand, me than one fourth of those in villages and small towns reported to have three or more friends from the opposite sex among their close circle of friends. This reflects a changing reality across the state. Interacting with those from the opposite gender is today increasingly accepted and more the social norm especially in small towns and villages. This appears true not merely for Karnataka but across the country.

Close to two of every ten young people stated that they had several friends from castes other than their own among their close circle of friends. Seven of very ten said that they had a few friends from this category. There are no differences here between young men and women or between those who are students, employed or home makers. There is also no variation across age groups (15 to 34) and those who are married or unmarried. Those in small towns and cities tended to have more close friends from castes other than their own as compared to those in villages and Bengaluru. This re-asserts the point earlier made that towns and cities seem to be at the cusp of social change. Those from the lower SES tended to have less close friends from castes other than their own. More than two of every ten from among the lower SES had no close friends from this category.

The least likely friends in the `inner circle`, are those hailing from other religions. More than one-fourth of the youth reported no friends from religions other than their own in their inner circle of friends. There are no significant differences when it comes to men and women, students and those working and across age groups. Reporting of no friends from other religions was high in villages and small towns. In Bengaluru, only six percent reported no friends from other religions in their close circle of friends. Nine of the ten youth from Bengaluru reported one of two friends from religions other than their own among their close friends. From among the youth in the lower SES, over one third reported no close friends from religions other than their own.

The national study of the youth ad found that:

> having someone of another caste, religion or opposite sex among the close circle of friends is limited to a small percentage of the youth, a mere 15 per cent. They would invariably be from high SES, beneficiaries of higher education and those living in towns and cities and would be more likely to be men.

The Karnataka study shows that the trend in the state is significantly different from the national findings. The pattern of social interaction and the inner circle of friends of youth indicate both the social transformation and reality as seen in this first decade of the twentieth century in the state of Karnataka. Breaking down of social barriers between young men and women is clearly indicated. Interaction with those from castes and religions other than one's own is still not widely prevalent.

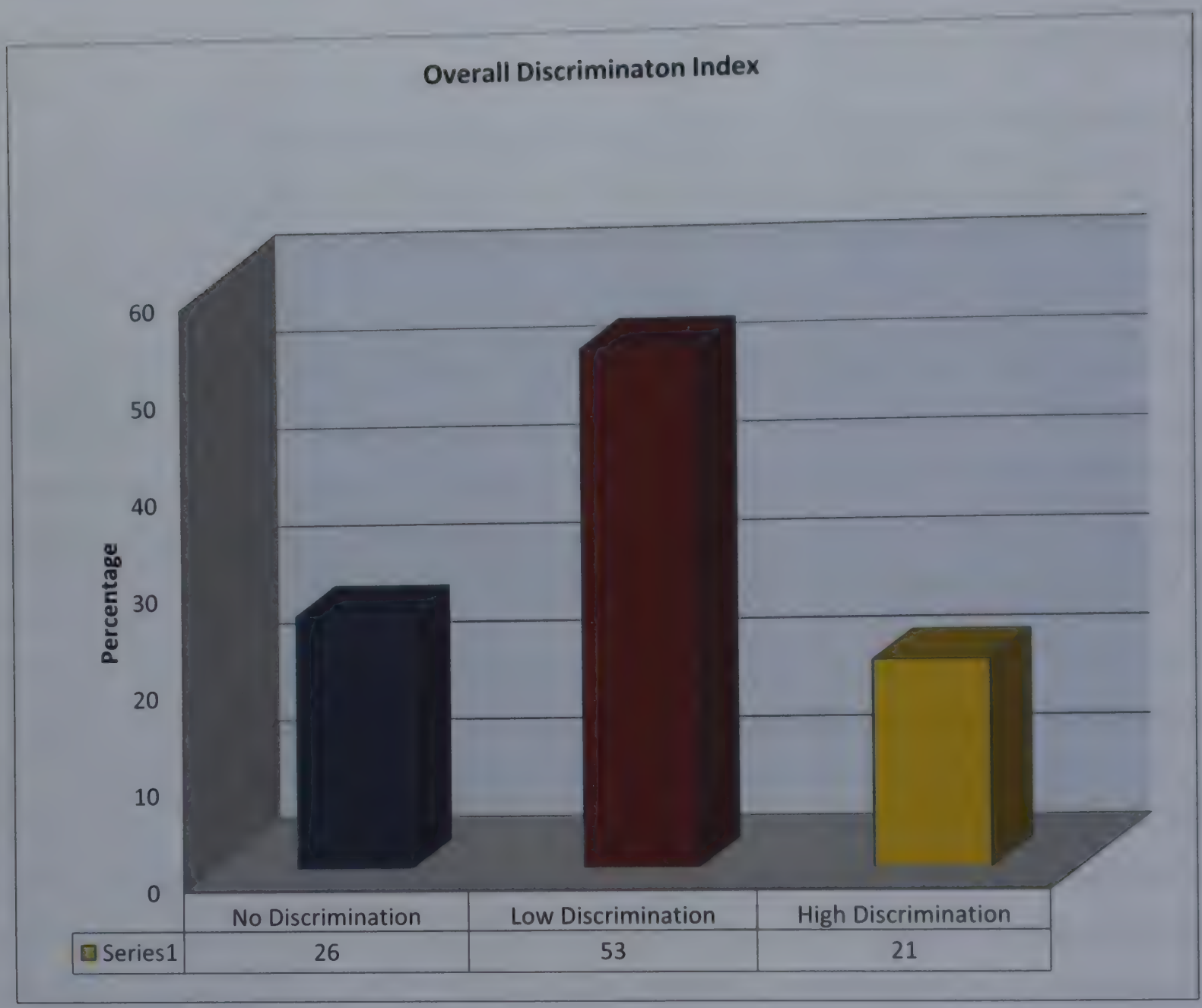
2.6: Do young people experience discrimination?

Did youth in the state feel discriminated against? To understand the nature and intensity of this discrimination, if at all it existed, respondents were specifically asked to mention whether they faced any discrimination on any of the following grounds: gender, economic status, caste, religion, locality and region. They were provided three options to register their response to each question: frequently, sometimes and never.

Based on the response of young people to the five different forms of discrimination, a comprehensive discrimination index was developed. Responses were classified under three broad heads : High discrimination, Low discrimination and No discrimination.

A little over one fourth of the respondents reported no discrimination on the five grounds mentioned. A little over 2 of every 10 stated that they experienced discrimination to a high degree. The balance (a little over fifty per cent) opined that they did experience discrimination though not very frequently.

Table/Chart 2.13



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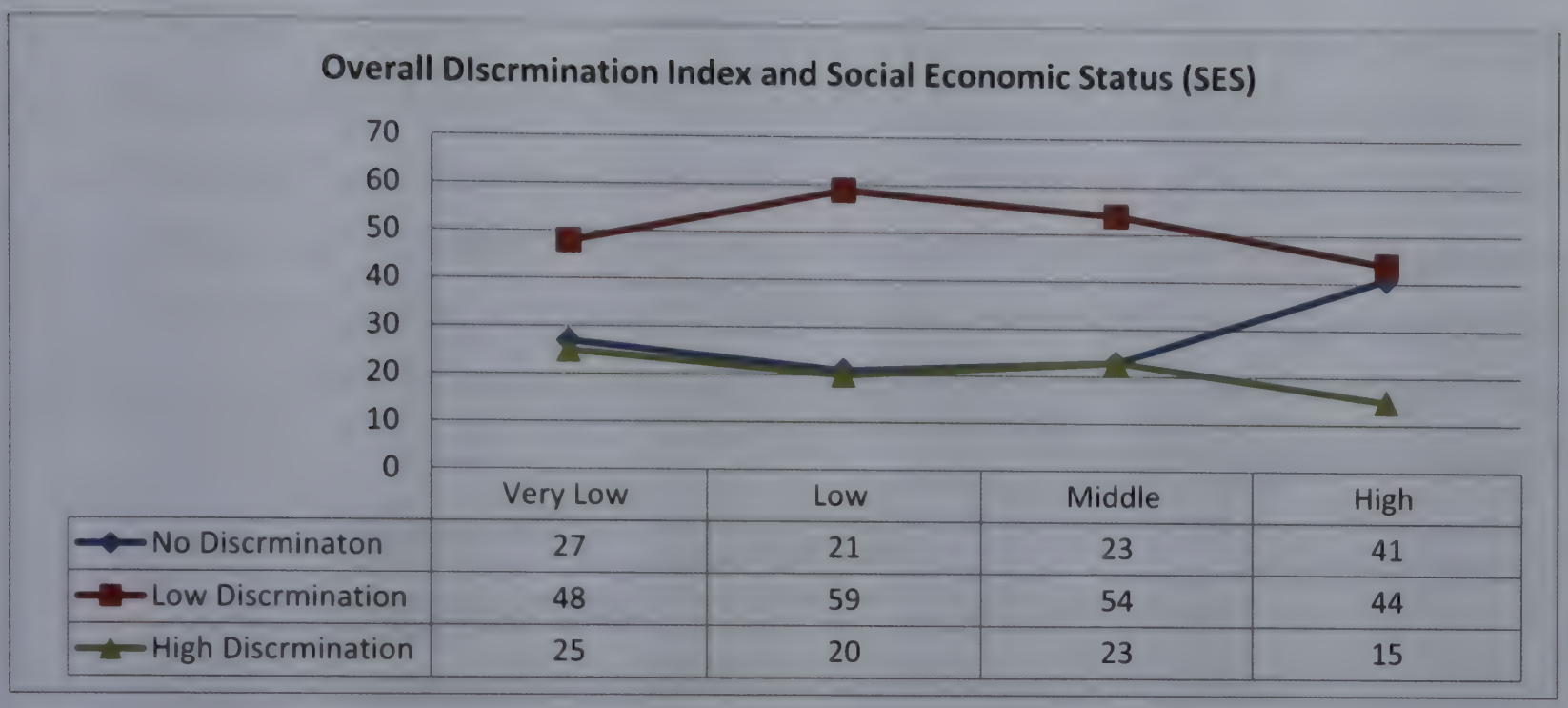
When the composite discrimination index is evaluated from the perspective of different variables, four clearly indicate significant differences – SES, Caste, Religion and Place of Residence.

The discrimination index clearly shows that with increase in SES, the reporting of no experience of discrimination increases and the high discrimination indication reduces. Economic status thus clearly explains the fact of discrimination encountered by youth.

Table/Chart 2.14

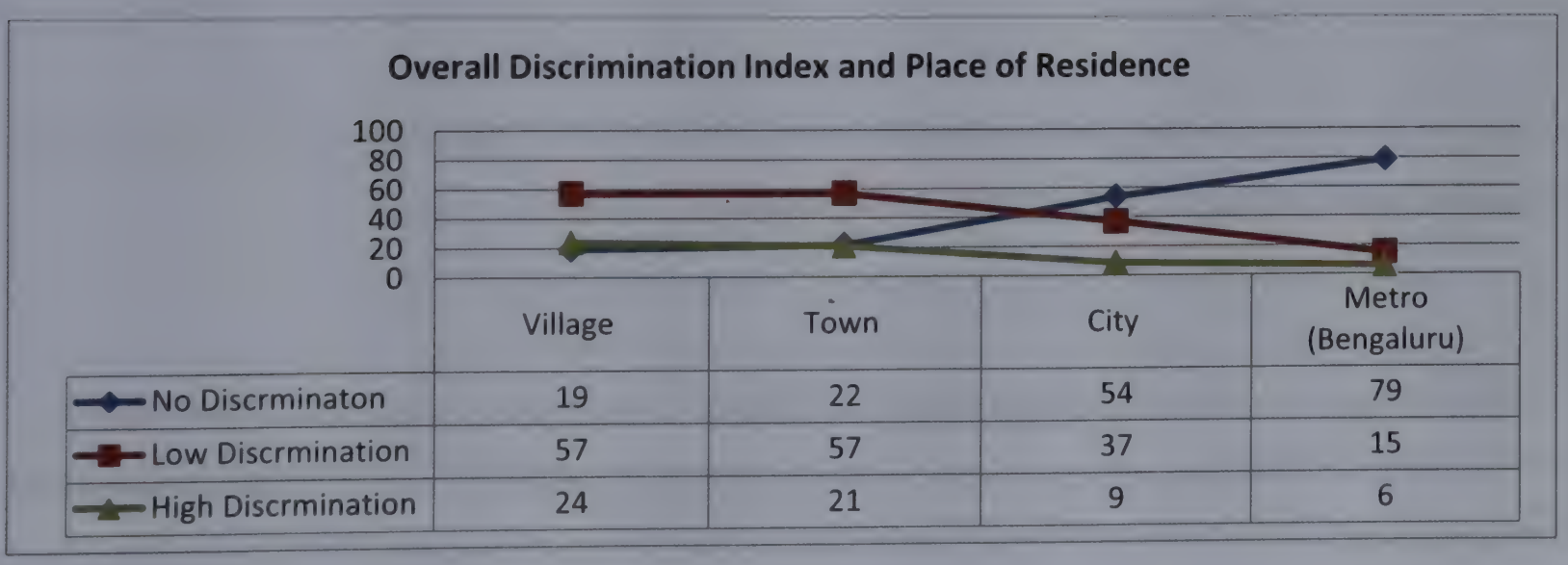


	Very Low	Low	Middle	High
No Discrminaton	27	21	23	41
Low Discrmination	48	59	54	44
High Discrmination	25	20	23	15

n - 8117

Place of residence is also indicative of the level of discrimination young people encounter in the state. Youth living in villages are less likely to say that they encountered no discrimination as compared to young people living in the larger cities and metropolitan Bengaluru. A majority of youth in the capital and in the larger cities stated that they never encountered discrimination. Very few in the urban areas fell in the high discrimination experience bracket.

Table/Chart 2.15



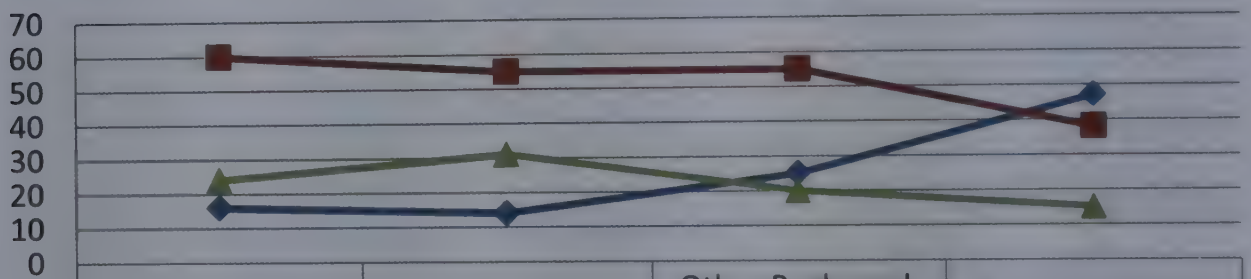
	Village	Town	City	Metro (Bengaluru)
No Discrminaton	19	22	54	79
Low Discrmination	57	57	37	15
High Discrmination	24	21	9	6

n - 8117

Caste appears to be a very predictive indicator of the experience of discrimination. Close to half the youth in the forward castes never experienced discrimination. Very few among the dalit and tribal youth reported never experiencing discrimination. Over one fourth of them (Dalits/ Tribals) reported frequent experience of discrimination. When viewed from the perspective of religion, Muslim youth were less likely to say that they never experienced discrimination as compared to young people from the Hindu and Christian community. Among the youth in the state, there was not much difference in the reporting of high discrimination across religions.

Table/Chart 2.16

Overall Discrimination Index and Caste



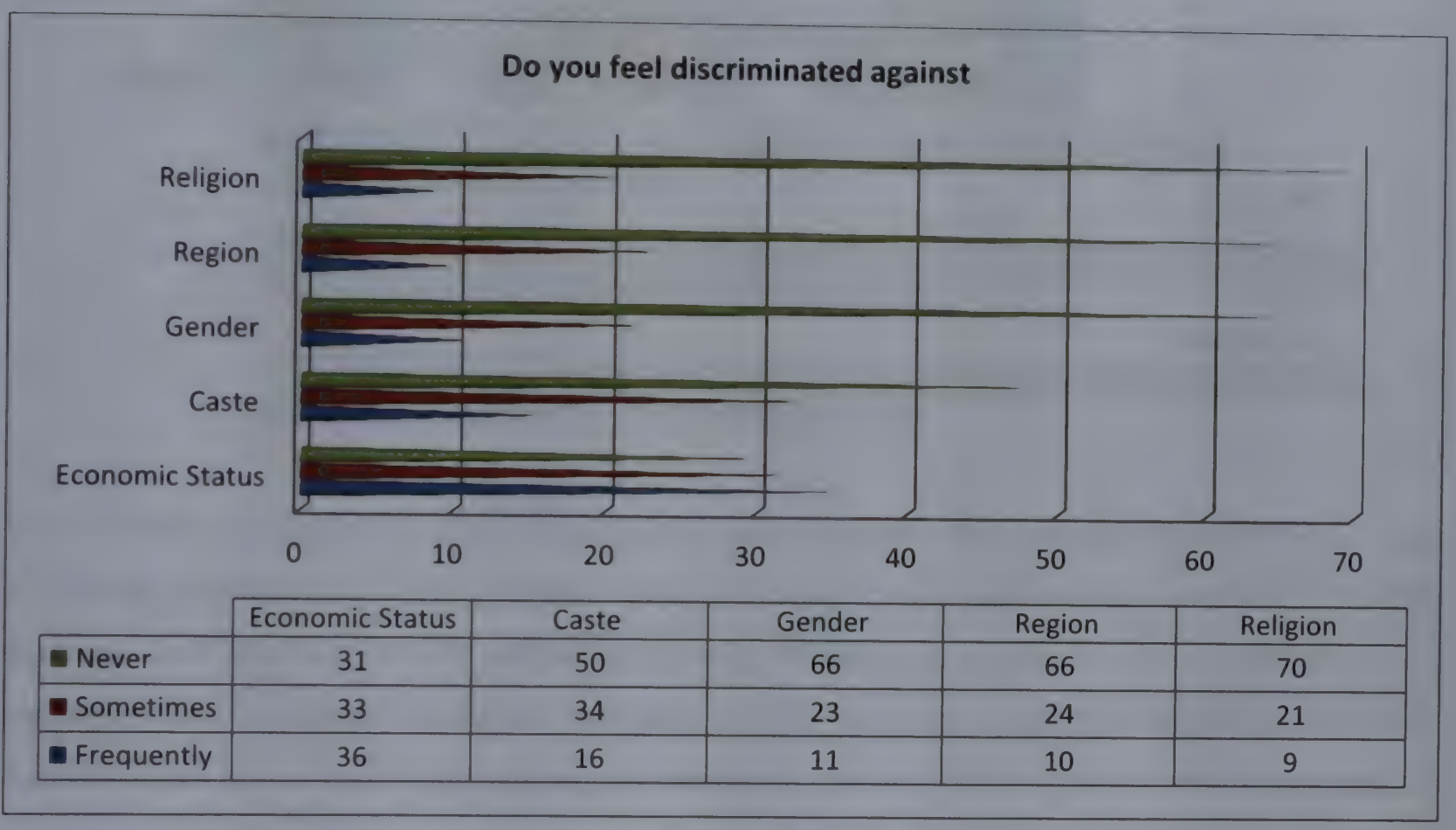
	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe	Other Backward Castes	Forward Castes
No Discrminaton	16	14	25	47
Low Discrmination	60	55	55	38
High Discrmination	24	31	20	15

It would be useful to consider the response of young people on their experience of discrimination on each of the five dimensions that the survey sought to tap.

One third of the youth said that they frequently felt discriminated on grounds of their economic status. If the category of sometimes were to be added, seven of every ten youth felt discriminated frequently or sometimes on account of their economic status. One-sixth of the youth felt discriminated on grounds of their caste. If the sometimes response is added, half the youth in the state have experienced

discrimination on grounds of caste. One-third of the youth felt discriminated frequently or sometimes on grounds of gender, region and religion. The reality of economic inequality and continued differentiation on grounds of caste is mirrored in the response of young people across the state.

Table/Chart 2.17

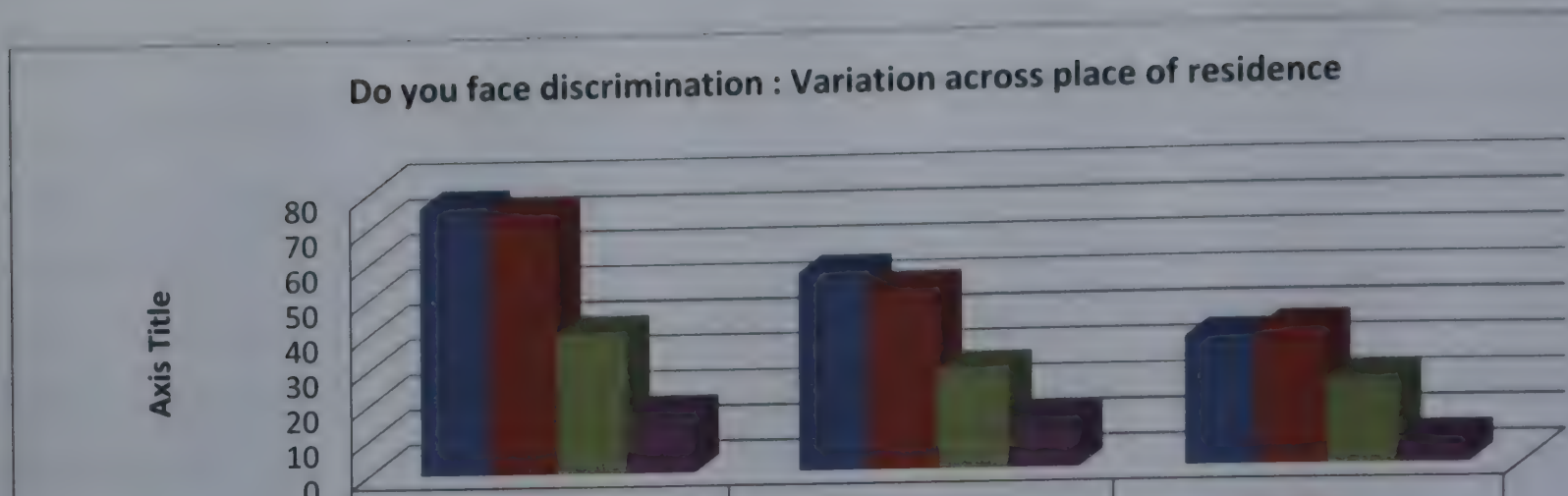


	Economic Status	Caste	Gender	Region	Religion
Never	31	50	66	66	70
Sometimes	33	34	23	24	21
Frequently	36	16	11	10	9

n- 8117

It is noticed that the strongest encounter of discrimination is linked to place of stay. Three- fourths of those living in a village felt discriminated against (frequently or sometimes) on the ground of their economic status. Experience of discrimination on account of their economic status was reported by only 17 percent of youth living in Bengaluru. In other cities in the state too, only four of every ten respondents reported experiencing discrimination on grounds of economic status.

Table/Chart 2.18



	Economic Status	Caste	Region
Village	76	56	36
Town	74	51	38
City	40	28	24
Bengaluru	17	14	7

n - 8117

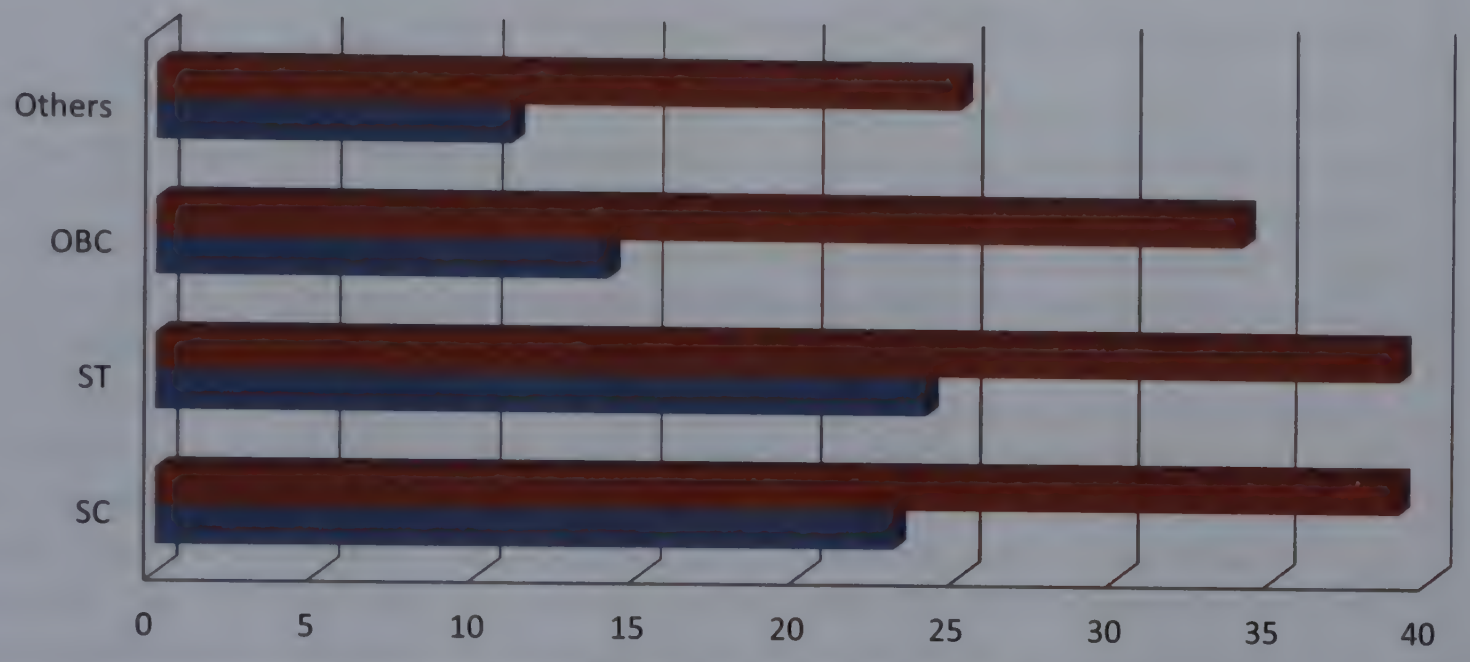
Caste based discrimination was also reported more as the study moved from urban locations to the villages. In Bengaluru city, 14 percent of youth reported that they were discriminated against on grounds of their caste. It increased four-fold (56 percent) when one went to a village. It doubled (as compared to Bengaluru city) when we went to other cities and came much closer to rural areas when the response in towns is collated (51 percent). Discrimination on grounds of region was expressed in a more pronounced way in villages and towns (36 and 28 percent respectively) whereas in Bengaluru city only 7 percent experienced discrimination on grounds of region.

Among Dalits and Tribals, caste based discrimination was reported to a significantly higher degree. One fourth of the respondents belonging to these two groups said that they felt discriminated on the grounds of caste frequently. If the sometimes response were to be added on, close to two-thirds experienced discrimination. Half the respondents from among the OBCs felt discriminated against frequently or sometimes. In the case of other social groups, the sense of discrimination was much lower with around one-thirds stating that they had faced discrimination on grounds of caste. The reality of

caste based discrimination is reflected in the response of youth. Especially, among Dalit youth, the experience of discrimination appears more visibly felt.

Table / Chart 2.19

Discrimination on the basis of caste : Across caste groups



	SC	ST	OBC	Others
Sometimes	39	39	34	25
Mostly	23	24	14	11

N - 8781

Women tended to experience more discrimination than men. Both among young women and men, the reporting of discrimination reduces as the study moves from rural areas to urban spaces. Among women, if close to six of ten in rural areas stated that they never faced discrimination on gender grounds, a little over two thirds of them in towns and cities reported never having faced gender based discrimination. In Bengaluru, nearly nine of every ten young women stated that they did not encounter discrimination on grounds of gender . There is however, another interesting urban – rural difference. A higher percentage of men in rural areas reported that they faced discrimination as compared to women in urban areas.

Being Discriminated Against

Ms Chitra (name changed) aged 20, married and a homemaker

Chitra says she is married to her mother's younger brother and there is an age gap of over 10 years between them. She was married right after she finished her S.S.L.C examination. She was very interested in studying further but she was pressured to marry soon after. Her usually supportive parents also encouraged her to quit studies and marry. As she is the only daughter for the parents, the family decided that this alliance would also safeguard the property as it would continue to remain within the family. She mentions that she was strongly against the marriage for two reasons. First she was very keen to study ahead, She had nursed the ambition to become a teacher very early in her life. And second was that she had desired for an educated husband. She mentions that she felt (and continues to feel) deeply disappointed in the family for forcing her into the alliance and not considering her point of view. She mentions that she vehemently and stubbornly refused in spite of the arguments presented by the family and even went on a hunger strike for over a week. But eventually gave in when she realized how deeply her parents and the other family members were getting hurt due to her stand. She mentions that no family member or other relatives or other acquaintances of her family even sympathized with her decision and many labeled her as being 'selfish' or 'arrogant'. She added that people often remarked that it was 'education that had made the girl difficult'. She mentions that initially she found her husband's behaviour very uncouth which she realized was the result of lack of exposure. As she begun to note his positives like not returning home drunk, not playing cards with other village men or using force to get her compliance reassured her of his 'innate goodness'. As the She began taking on the responsibilities of running the household along with the significant financial decisions, for example applying for a bank loan to convert their mud house into a concrete structure. Constructing the house with a few extra rooms that could be rented out and provide for an additional and stable source of income, had helped her husband realize that it was his wife's education that enabled her to make wise decisions. Yet she says her husband still has certain non- negotiable decisions. She mentions that as agriculture is a seasonal job, it does not occupy one a whole year around. There are times when she is sitting at home idly for months. She says that she would prefer to work on an alternative source of income during this period like working at a garment factory or a cola manufacturing company nearby. But her husband is starkly against her working at places where there could be other 'strange men'. She says that it is her husband's insecurity and lack of exposure that makes him very narrow minded.

(from Case Study ` Being a Women.....` CERSSE)

Table/Chart 2.20

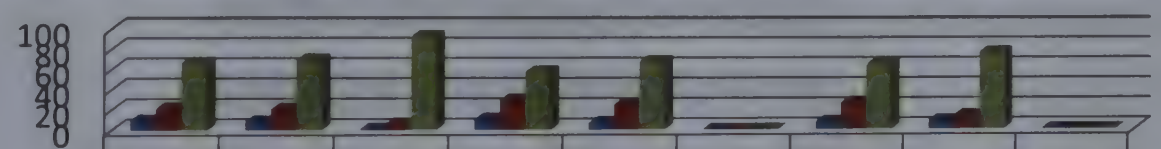
Discriminaton on Grounds of Gender: Men and Women Across Locations

	Village Women	Village Men	Town / City Women	Town/City Men	Metropolitan Women	Metropolitan Men
Frequently	15	11	10	8	5	3
Sometimes	26	21	24	19	6	6
Never	59	68	66	73	89	91

n – 7834

Table /Chart 2.21

Discrmination on Grounds of Religion : Youth from different religions across locations



	Village Hindu	Town/ City Hindu	Metropolitan Hindu	Village Muslim	Town/ City Muslim	Metropolitan Muslim	Village Christian	Town / City Christian	Metropolitan Christian
Frequently	10	9	1	11	7	0	8	9	0
Sometimes	22	21	6	30	25	0	27	14	0
Never	67	70	93	58	68	0	65	77	0

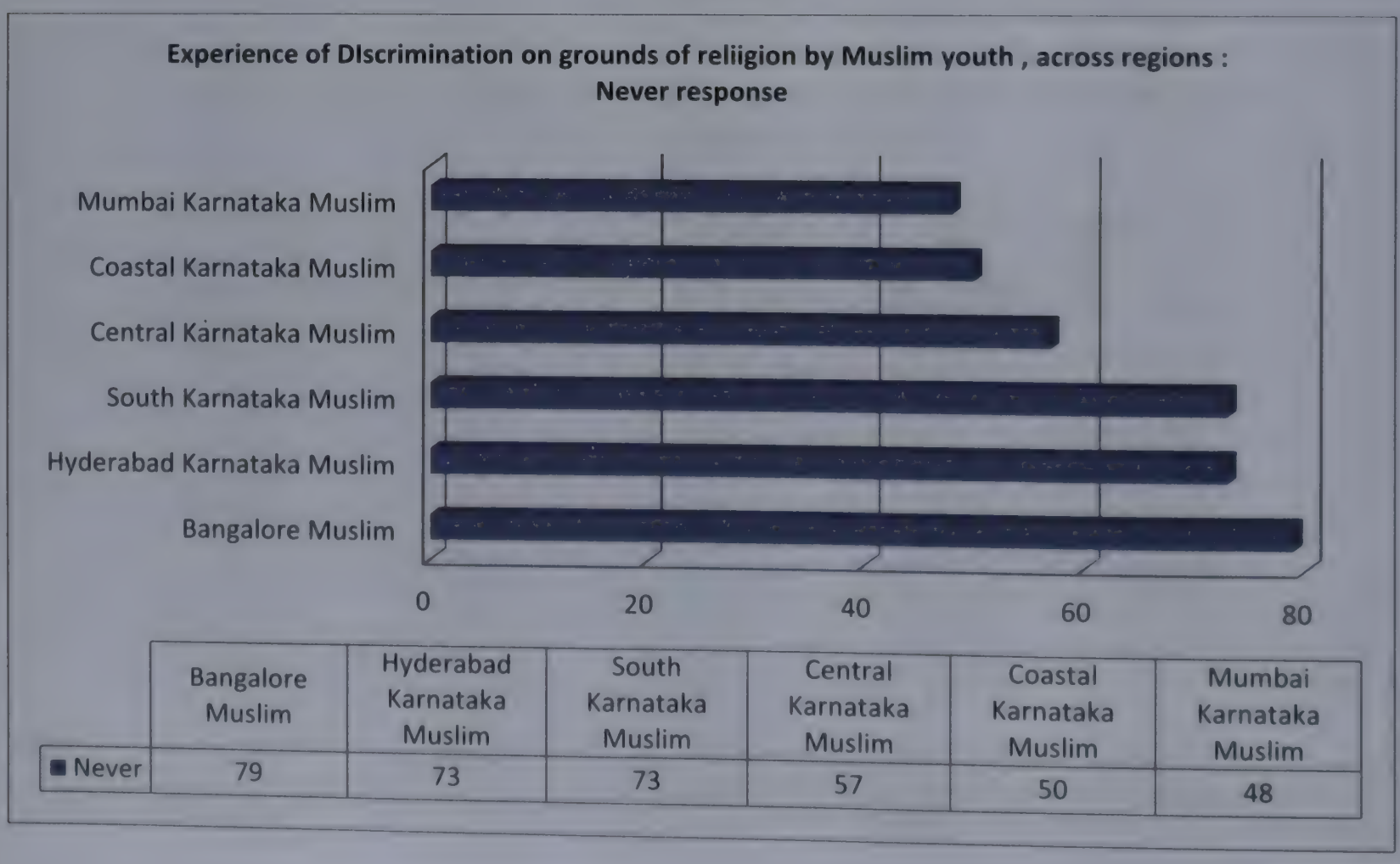
n - 7864

When it came to discrimination on grounds of religion, Muslim youth (36 percent) tended to report discrimination to a marginally higher extent as compared to Hindu and Christian youth (both 31

percent). There are important differences across locations. Over four of every ten young Muslims in villages reported having encountered discrimination on religious lines. Close to one third of the young Muslim youth in towns did report having faced religion based discrimination. The percentage comes down significantly in Bengaluru city. If the `never felt discriminated` on grounds of religion response among Muslim youth was analysed region wise, it is noted that in Bengaluru city, South Karnataka and Hyderabad Karnatak regions close to three fourths come up with this answer. In Coastal Karnataka, only half the Muslim youth came up with the `never felt discriminated` response and less than half in the Mumbai Karnatak region came up with this response.

It is interesting that a larger number of Hindu youth as compared to those from the Christian community reported experiencing religion based discrimination in villages. If close to three of every ten young Hindus reported facing discrimination on grounds of religion in villages and small towns and cities, close to one third of Christian youth in villages and one fourth in cities and towns stated that they had faced discrimination on religious grounds.

Table/Chart 2.22



	Bangalore Muslim	Hyderabad Karnataka Muslim	South Karnataka Muslim	Central Karnataka Muslim	Coastal Karnataka Muslim	Mumbai Karnataka Muslim
Never	79	73	73	57	50	48

It is clear that youth in urban areas tended to report less experience of discrimination as compared to those in villages. The fact that urban women reported to have faced less discrimination as compared to men in rural areas is a reflection of this point. Two issues need to be budgeted into this discussion. Firstly, it is a question of perception. Youth in urban areas on account of greater exposure may be less tolerant of different forms of discrimination. Secondly, given greater assertion of rights and equality among youth in urban areas, the desire not to acknowledge having faced discrimination could be much higher.

When the overall discrimination index is viewed from the perspective of different variables, significant variation is seen on two dimensions – socio-economic status and caste. Close to four of every ten youth from a High SES stated that they had never experienced any form of discrimination. Just fifteen percent of those in the high SES experienced high level of discrimination. Close to one fourth of those from the middle class and over one fourth of those in the very low SES reported encountering high discrimination. In the case of the poor it could be a reflection of not being able to access opportunities and in the case of the middle class youth it may be an expression of inability to fulfill rising aspirations.

One of every ten among the tribal youth said that they faced discrimination frequently. Close to one fourth of Dalit youth expressed a similar sentiment while a much lower percentage of youth from the Other Backward Castes (OBCs) and Forward Castes felt that they were discriminated against frequently. Close to half the youth from among the Forward Castes reported never having faced discrimination. It is thus clearly evident that the economic and social status of youth play a major role to play in their reporting having faced discrimination in any form.

The perception and response of youth in Karnataka to the experience of discrimination is in some ways similar to the findings of the all India study on the youth. The All India study too found that youth across the country reported the highest discrimination on the basis of economic status and then on the basis of caste. The reporting of discrimination appears to be more realistic in the Karnataka study.

Youth in Karnataka are symbols of continuity with change when it comes to their social relationships and the emphasis they place on family and social traditions. This is in consonance with the tradition in the state and the belief in retaining the best elements of the past as one moves forward and also in aligning oneself to the changing reality and requirements of time.

Chapter 3

HOPES & ASPIRATIONS- TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS OF YOUTH

Youth in the state are singular in their commitment to taking on responsibilities and have a refreshingly positive outlook.

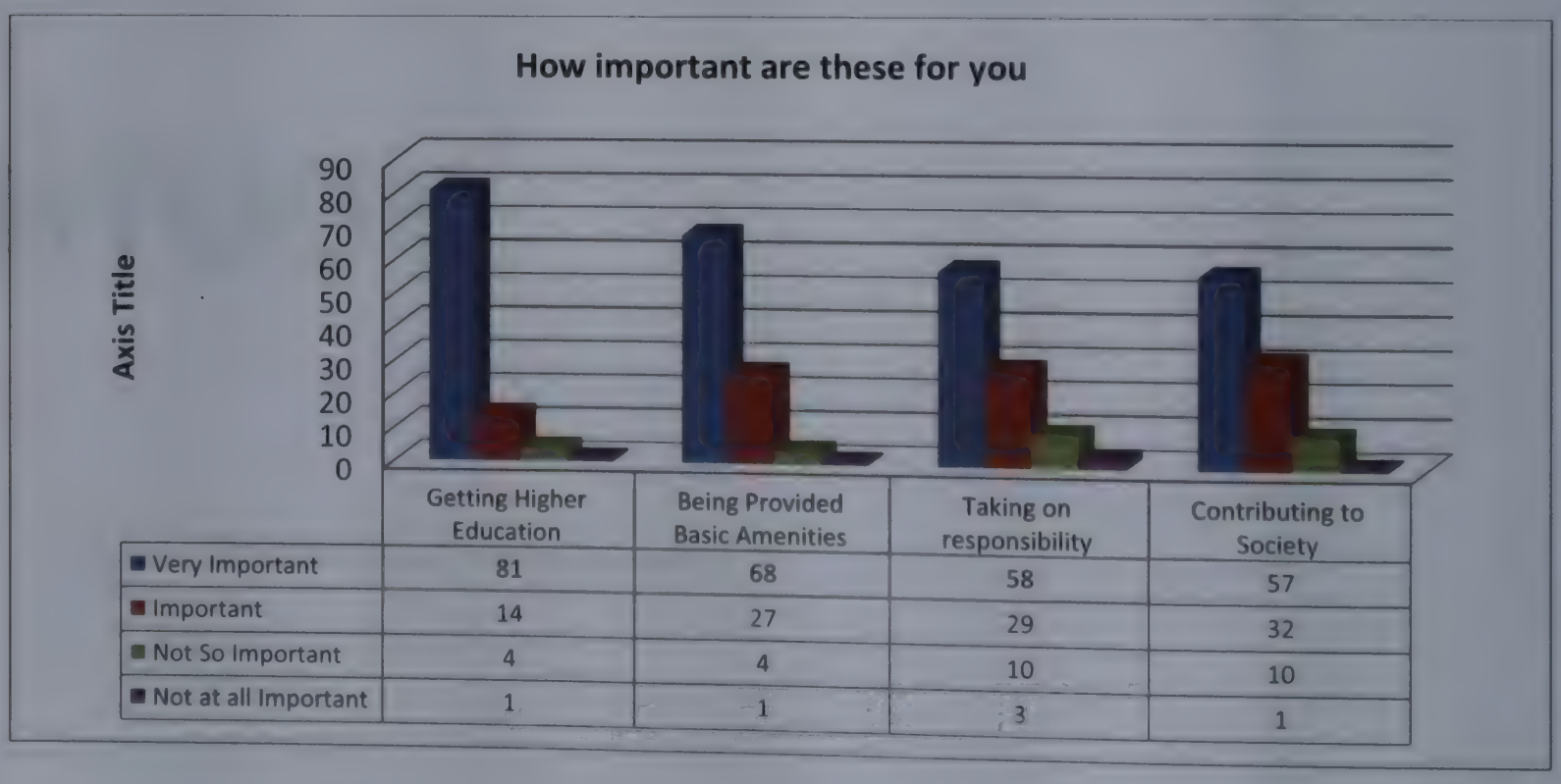
The youth in a society represent the hope for the future. What are the dreams and life experience of the youth? What are the aims and aspirations of the youth in Karnataka? What do they hope to achieve as individuals? What do they consider as being important in their lives? What are the challenges they face and what causes them anxiety? A host of questions in the survey sought to tap their response to some of these questions. This chapter provides a window to understand the hopes and aspirations of a typical young person in Karnataka and maps theirs principal concerns.

3.1: An agenda of priorities

Different people have diverse goals and aspirations. A new generation of young people could think amazingly differently from others. There could also be significant differences among them on a range of issues. The survey attempted to map the responses of young people in the state on what they considered important in their lives, through two important sets of questions.

Firstly, they were asked how important did they consider certain basic priorities in their lives. They were offered a range of four answers: very important, important, not important or not at all important.

Table/ Chart 3.1



	Getting Higher Education	Being Provided Basic Amenities	Taking on responsibility	Contributing to Society
Very Important	81	68	58	57
Important	14	27	29	32
Not So Important	4	4	10	10
Not at all Important	1	1	3	1

n 8862

[redacted]

I grow with my child

The story of Kamalamma (name changed) 25 year old Tribal women as narrated to her daughter's teacher

I never had a chance to go to school. In my younger days, in our tribe, nobody went to school. The first time I went to a school was to admit my daughter, when she was six years old and ready to join Standard 1. My husband and I had saved enough money to be able to send her to school. My husband has also never been to school. When I told him that we both need to meet the Principal to admit our child, he backed out and asked me to do the job alone. I was nervous but I agreed as I realized my daughter must study.

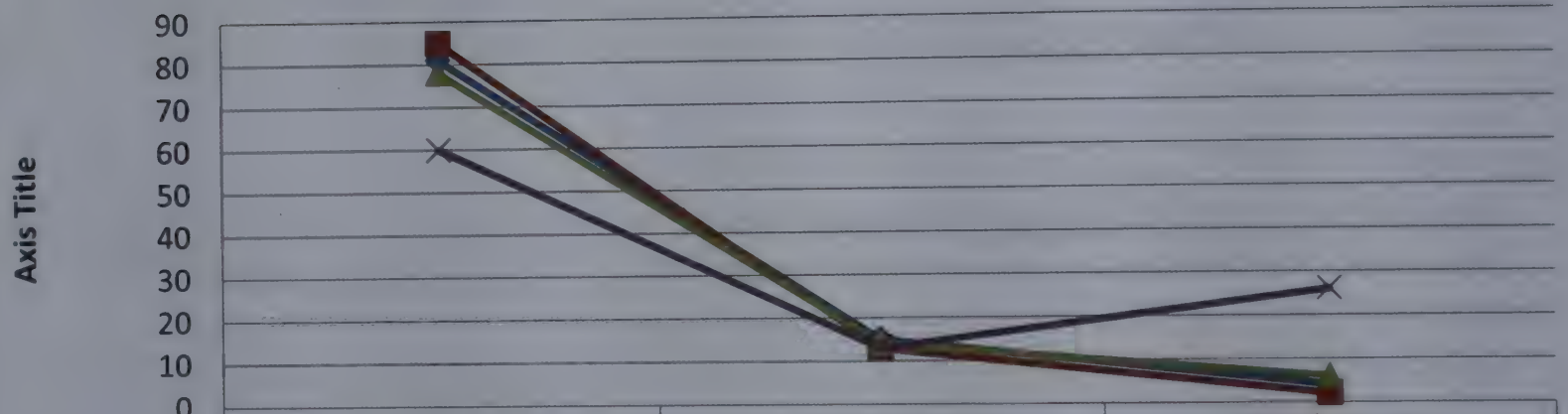
I was worried whether my daughter could adjust to the school, her teachers and her classmates. The first day she seemed fine. I decided to go with her to school every day and sit there till the end of her school day. This became my routine. Her teacher told me to go home and that my daughter would be fine. I asked for permission to sit and watch my daughter. I promised not to disturb them in any way. I wanted to be there to see my daughter grow. I understood nothing of what they do. I just want to relive my childhood seeing my daughter grow. When she goes to school it is like my going to school. She is excited about going to school every day. I too am... Excited for her and Excited for myself.

From Case Study I Grow with My Child CERSSE

Eight out of ten young people felt that securing higher education was very important. If those who said higher education was important, is added on, all but five percent of respondents took this stand. There was not much variation across gender, caste or economic status. Place of residence appeared to make a difference. One fourth of the youth in Bengaluru claimed that securing higher education was not so important. Only six of every ten youth in this metropolitan city claimed that accessing higher education was very important. This could be a reflection of the real world. As they are already benefitting from higher education they see no reason to showcase it as something important.

Table/Chart 3.2

How important is higher education: Variation in response with place of residence



	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not so Important
Village	81	15	4
Town	85	13	2
City	78	14	6
Bengaluru	60	13	26

n - 8883

How important was it for youth to be able to secure basic amenities (what constituted basic amenities was left to the respondent to decide). Here again close to seven in every ten young people said that securing basic amenities was very important. If those who said it was important was collapsed with the very important category, all but five percent of young people prioritized securing basic needs. Here too, there was not much of a variation across social variables.

There clearly was a desire among the Karnataka youth, to be socially responsible. Close to six of every ten said that contributing to society was very important for them. Another one-third felt that it was important. Only one in every ten felt that it was not important or not at all important. Youth could have

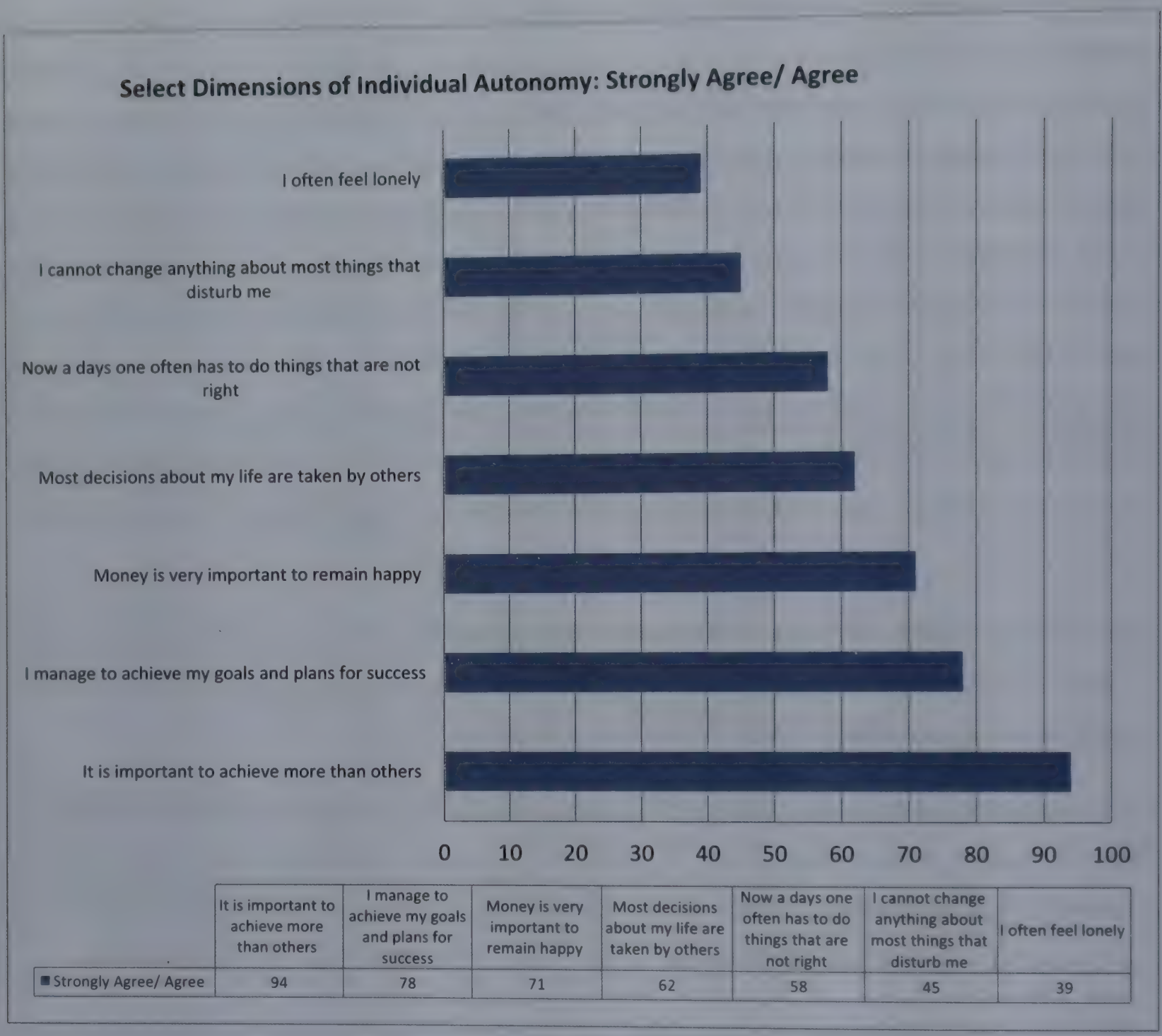
viewed the question of social responsibility in different ways. It could have been seen from the perspective of behaving in a socially responsible manner by some or it could have meant being involved in some form of social work for some others. To tap the second, the survey asked another question: How much of your free time do you spend in social work? Close to half the respondents said that they sometimes or quite frequently spent time in social work. Giving time for social work is significantly higher among youth in rural areas and drastically reduces when response of youth in urban areas is tapped. In Bengaluru city, less than one thirds of the youth stated that they spent their free time in social work. Having participated in social work tends to rise with access to education. Among those who have had the benefit of some college education, fifty five percent said that they have been involved with social work. Among the illiterate youth, six of every ten stated that they have never been involved in social work. This may not be so much a reflection of their interest and desire to do social work but the nature of the world they live in, the limited opportunities they have access to and the pressure on their time.

Taking on responsibility was considered important by a large section of the youth. Close to six of every ten youth prioritized it as being very important. Another three of every ten saw it as important. Just one in every ten felt it was not very important or not at all important.

Young respondents were asked a battery of questions which dealt with people's opinions towards life. They were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with these statements. The intensity of their agreement/ disagreement was further explored (strongly agree/disagree or somewhat agree/disagree). The issues are now presented in the order of the intensity of their agreement with the statement.

Youth in Karnataka were asked if it was important to achieve more than ofthers. All but six percent agreed with the statement. There was little variation across socio-economic status, gender and age. The competitive spirit in the new generation is clearly evident. Some variation was seen on two variables: place of residence and exposure to formal education. Those in Bengaluru were more likely to strongly agree with this statement as compared to those living in villages. If close to nine of every ten young respondents in Bengaluru strongly agreed with this statement, three fourths of the respondents in villages strongly agreed with the statement. Further, the likelihood of young people strongly agreeing with this statement rose with access to education.

Table/Chart 3.3

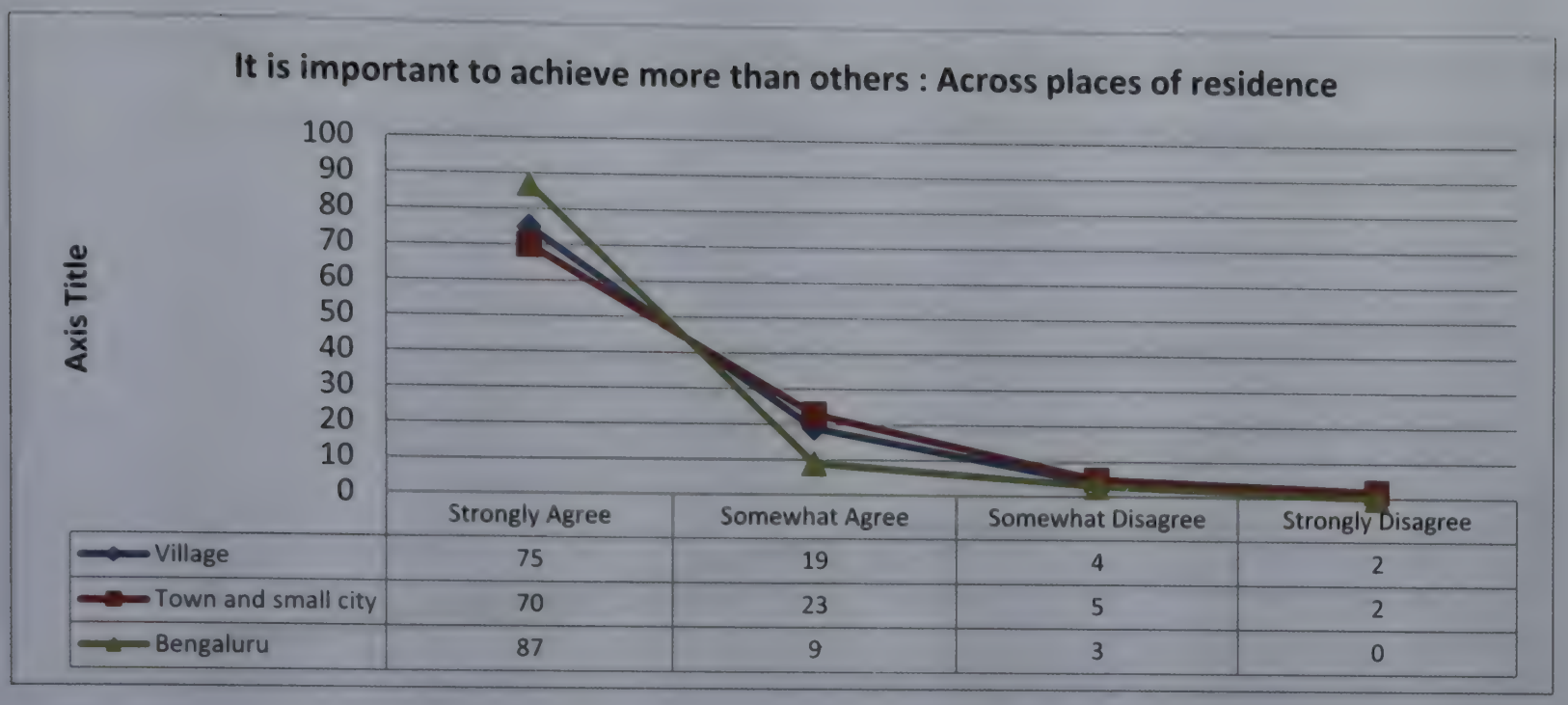

Select Dimensions of Individual Autonomy: Strongly Agree/ Agree
I often feel lonely
I cannot change anything about most things that disturb me
Now a days one often has to do things that are not right
Most decisions about my life are taken by others
Money is very important to remain happy
I manage to achieve my goals and plans for success
It is important to achieve more than others
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100

	It is important to achieve more than others	I manage to achieve my goals and plans for success	Money is very important to remain happy	Most decisions about my life are taken by others	Now a days one often has to do things that are not right	I cannot change anything about most things that disturb me	I often feel lonely
Strongly Agree/ Agree	94	78	71	62	58	45	39

n - 8314

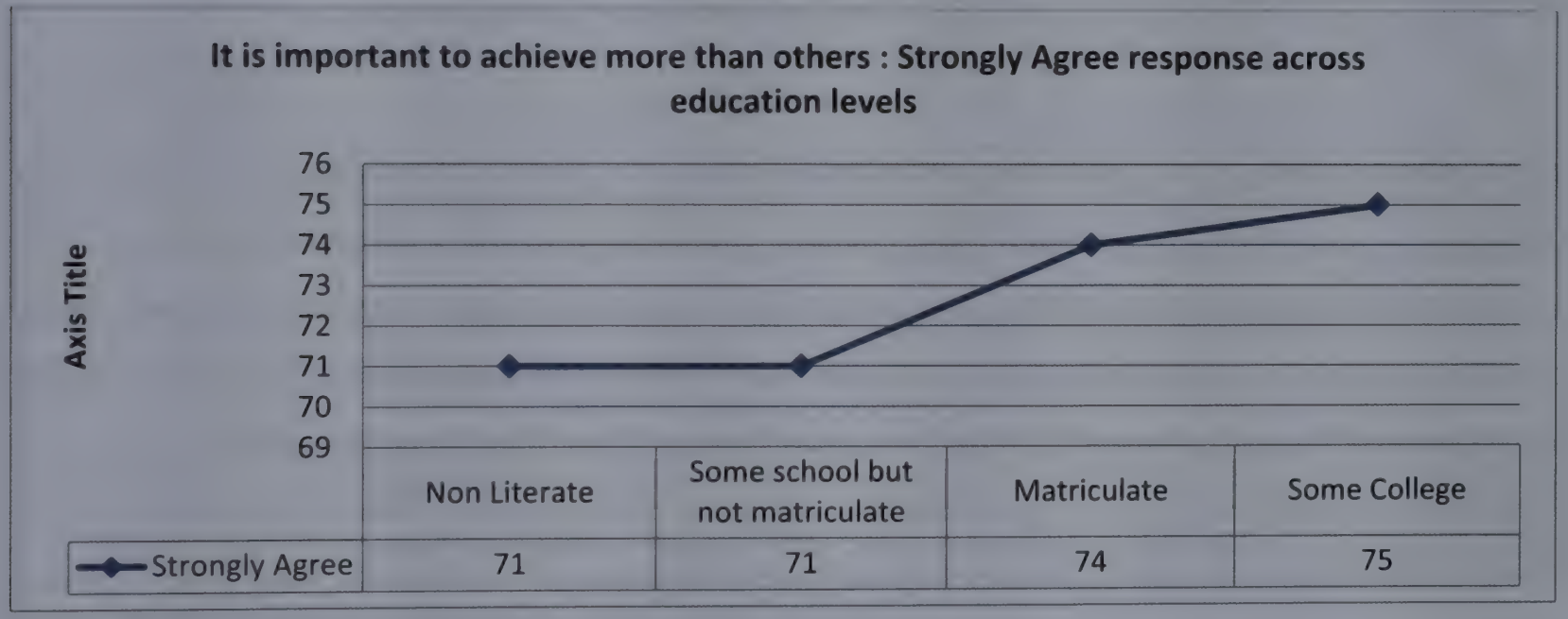
Greater exposure to the pressure and pulls of the modern world and the challenges and new opportunities provided by liberalization and globalization could have moulded the attitude of young people in cities and those with exposure to higher education on this issue.

Table / Chart 3.4



n - 8837

Table / Chart 3.5

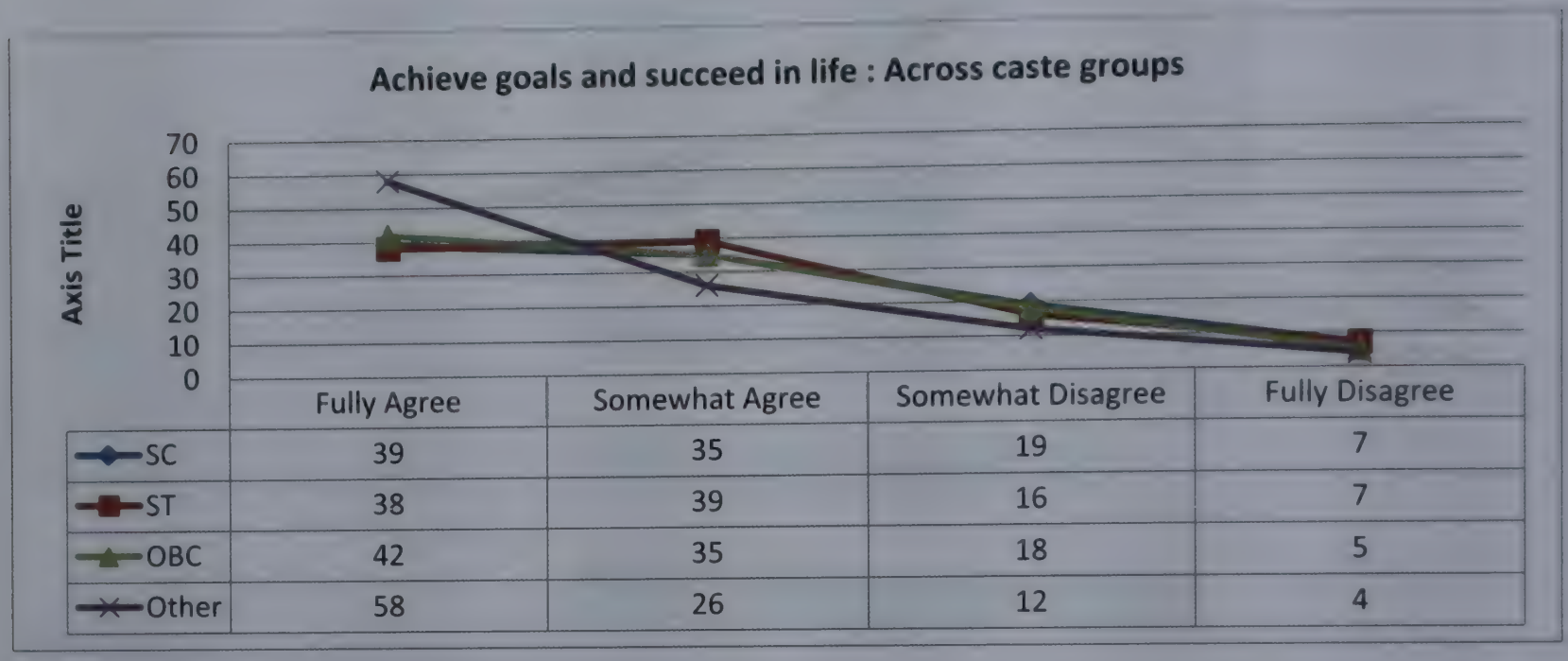


n - 6514

Youth were more positive about their capacities and abilities. Close to eight of every ten respondents stated that they managed to achieve their goals and plans for success. The age of the respondent did not appear to change the nature of the response. The employment status of the respondent did not significantly alter the intensity of the response too. The only marginal difference was in the case of

students who also took up part time work. They came up with a much higher `strongly agree` response. Homemakers too displayed the same preferences as others.

Table / Chart 3.6



	Fully Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Fully Disagree
SC	39	35	19	7
ST	38	39	16	7
OBC	42	35	18	5
Other	58	26	12	4

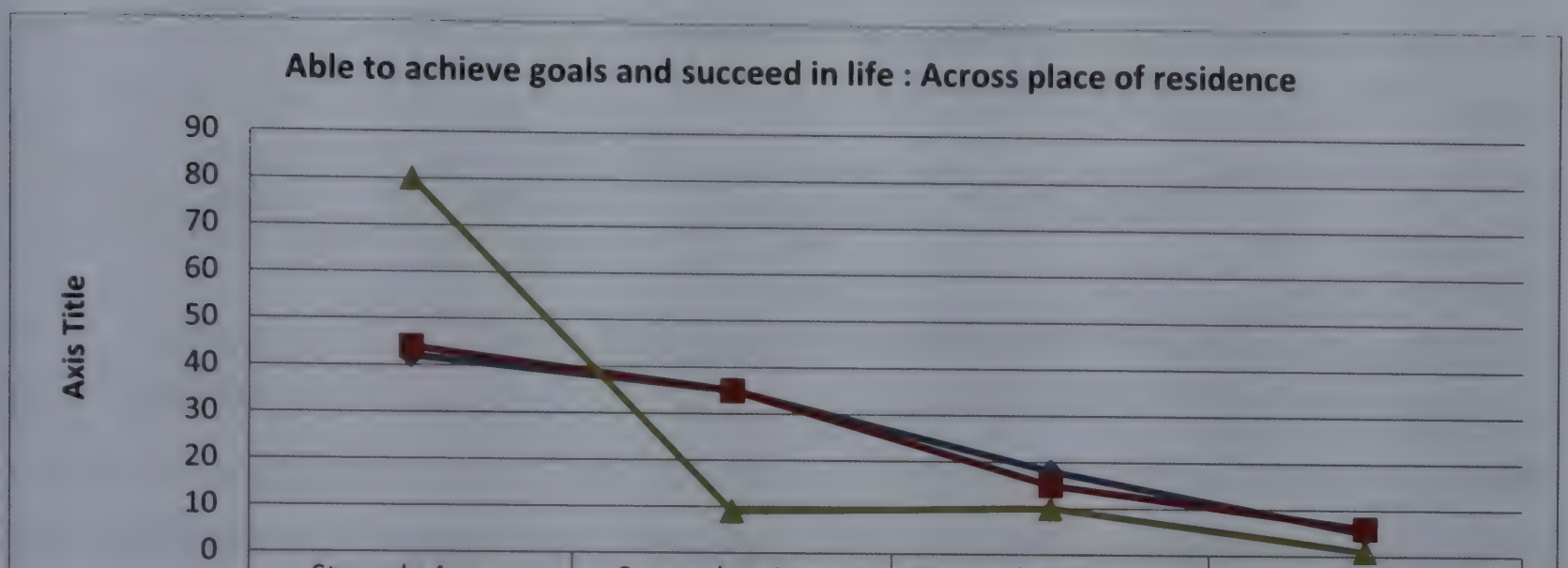
n - 8579

Two variables seem to have a major impact- caste and place of residence. Those belonging to the Upper Castes were more likely to agree with the statement as compared to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes and the Other Backward Castes (OBCs). The strongly agree answer was also much higher (in percentage terms) among the Forward Castes. Among different social groups, the Scheduled Castes agreed with the lowest levels of intensity. However, in their case too, close to three-fourths agreed with the statement. This again could be a reflection of the reality that young people experience. Given the mention of caste based discrimination, it is likely that the disadvantaged social groups continue to have a more limited expectations.

Nine of every ten respondents in cities stated that they agreed that they were able to achieve their goals and plans for success. More significantly, eight of every ten respondents in cities strongly agreed with this statement. In the villages, three-fourth of the youth agreed with this statement with four of every ten strongly agreeing with this statement. Young people in towns came closer to those in villages on this response as compared to those in cities. There are minor variations in the response to perception of

goal attainment among those from different socio- economic backgrounds (SES) and those with varied access to education though the variation is not as significant as in the case of caste and place of residence.

Table / Chart 3.7

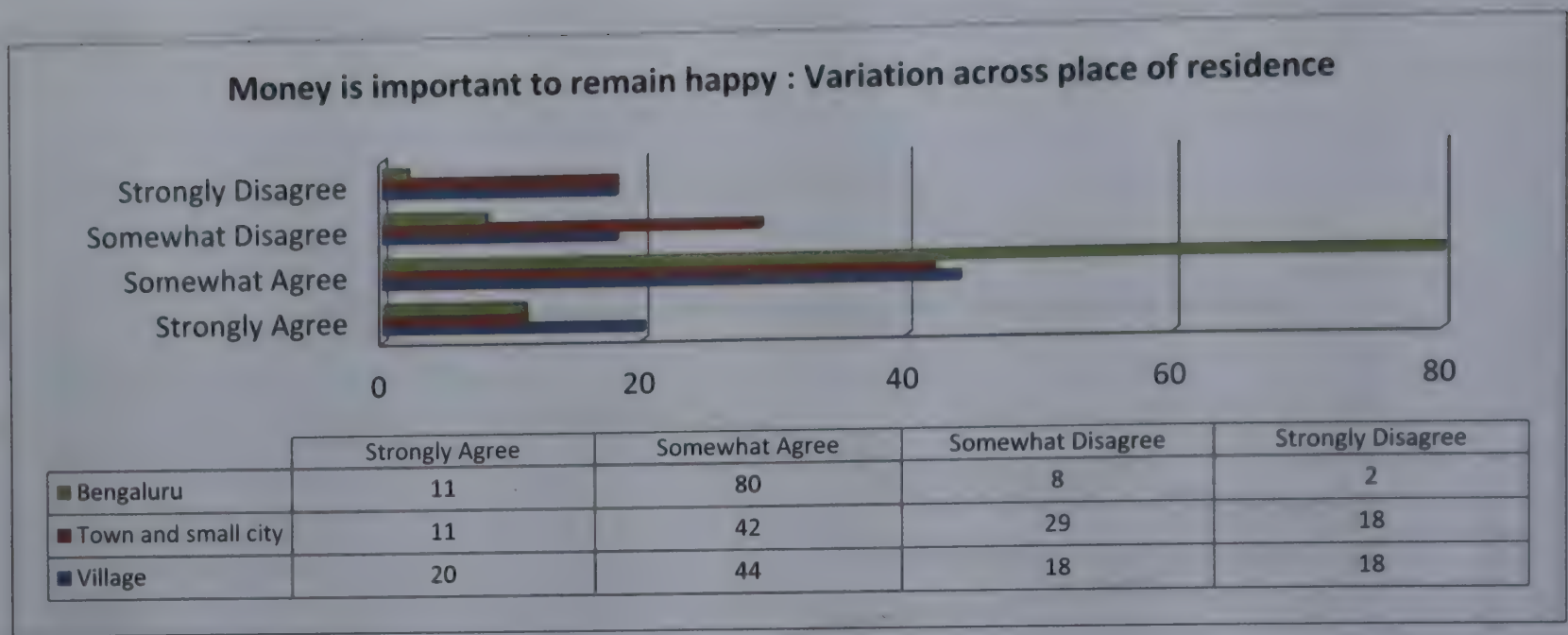


	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Village	42	35	18	5
Town	44	35	15	6
City	80	9	10	1

n – 8579

The materialistic instinct in the younger generation is evident when seven of every ten of them opined that money was important to remain happy. The clear impact of globalization, privatization and liberalization is reflected in the attitudes of young people.

Table/ Chart 3.8



	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Bengaluru	11	80	8	2
Town and small city	11	42	29	18
Village	20	44	18	18

n-8670

We have presented the response of youth on three issues which clearly indicates the levels of `individual autonomy` they enjoy and their strong faith in their individual capacities. A range of other questions also indicate that youth concede that they are not necessarily always in control of what happens in their lives. Six of every ten youth averred that most decisions in their life are taken by others. This attitude of helplessness was more pronounced in the case of those in Bengaluru city. Nine of every ten agreed with this statement. Those in towns and small cities were the least pessimistic on this issue. There is a more or less equal split between those who agreed and disagreed with this statement in town and small cities. In villages close to two-thirds agreed with this statement. The `strongly agree` response was the highest in the villages with most in Bengaluru came up with a `agree` response.

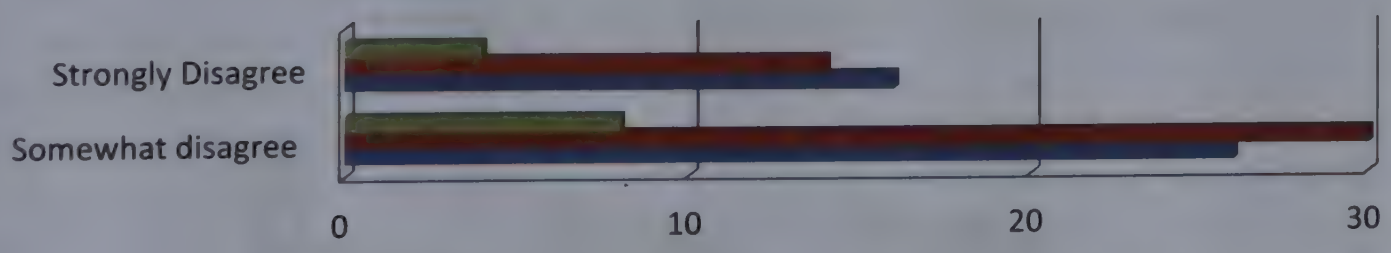
There is significant variation across how youth belonging to different social groups view this question. Those belonging to the forward castes are least likely to agree with this statement as compared to the Scheduled Castes/ Tribes and OBCs. Access to education also makes a marginal difference. Three of every ten respondents who have had the benefit of higher education strongly disagree with this statement while less than one fourth of the illiterate respondents took a similar stand.

Youth seem to have a challenge between maintaining individual autonomy on the one hand and responding to social/group/peer pressures on the other. Close to six of every ten young people in the State felt that one had to often do things which are not right. There is no significant difference across age groups among the youth or between young men and women, on this question. This disagreement with this statement is much higher among youth in areas outside Bengaluru. While more than four of every ten youth in these regions disagree with this statement it plummets to just one of every ten young people in Bengaluru. This is clear indicator of the fact that young people in Bengaluru city are often caught in a dilemma and need to do something that is not right often on account of peer pressure and the situation they find themselves in.

On the question of having to often do something which is not right, the more affluent among the youth prefer to be on the middle ground and agree or disagree with the statement, with a very small percentage saying that the strongly agree/disagree. This could imply that they hedge taking a clear stand. On the other hand, a majority of those young respondents who were in the lowest SES prefer to be in the strongly agree/disagree category.

Table/Chart 3.9

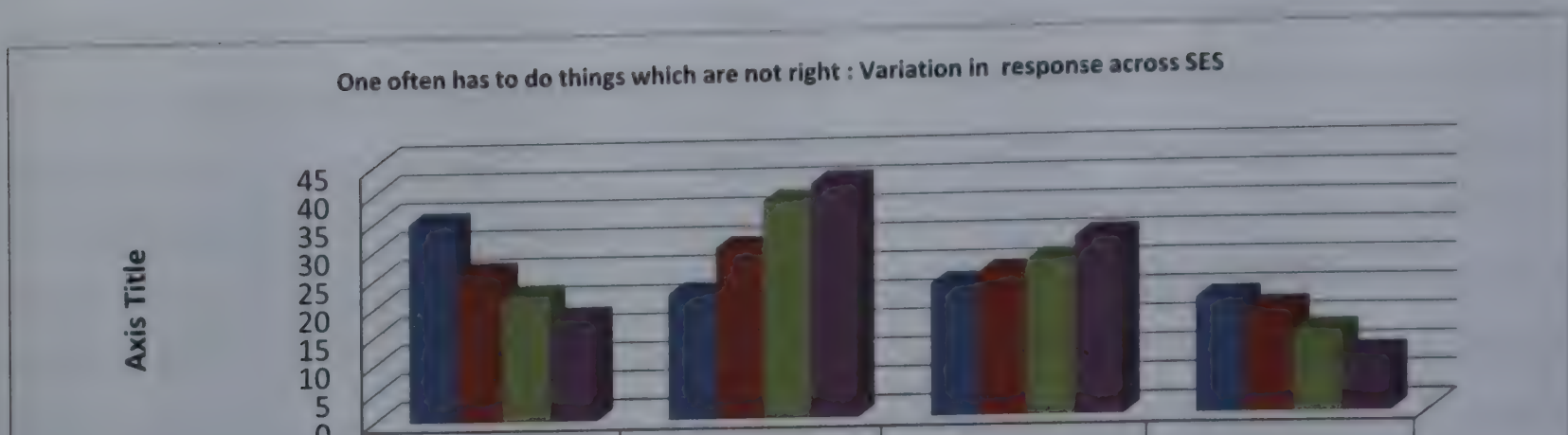
One often has to do things which are not right : Variation in Strongly disagree/ somewhat disagree response across Places of residence



	Somewhat disagree	Strongly Disagree
Bengaluru	8	4
Town and small city	30	14
Village	26	16

n – 8459

Table/Chart 3.10

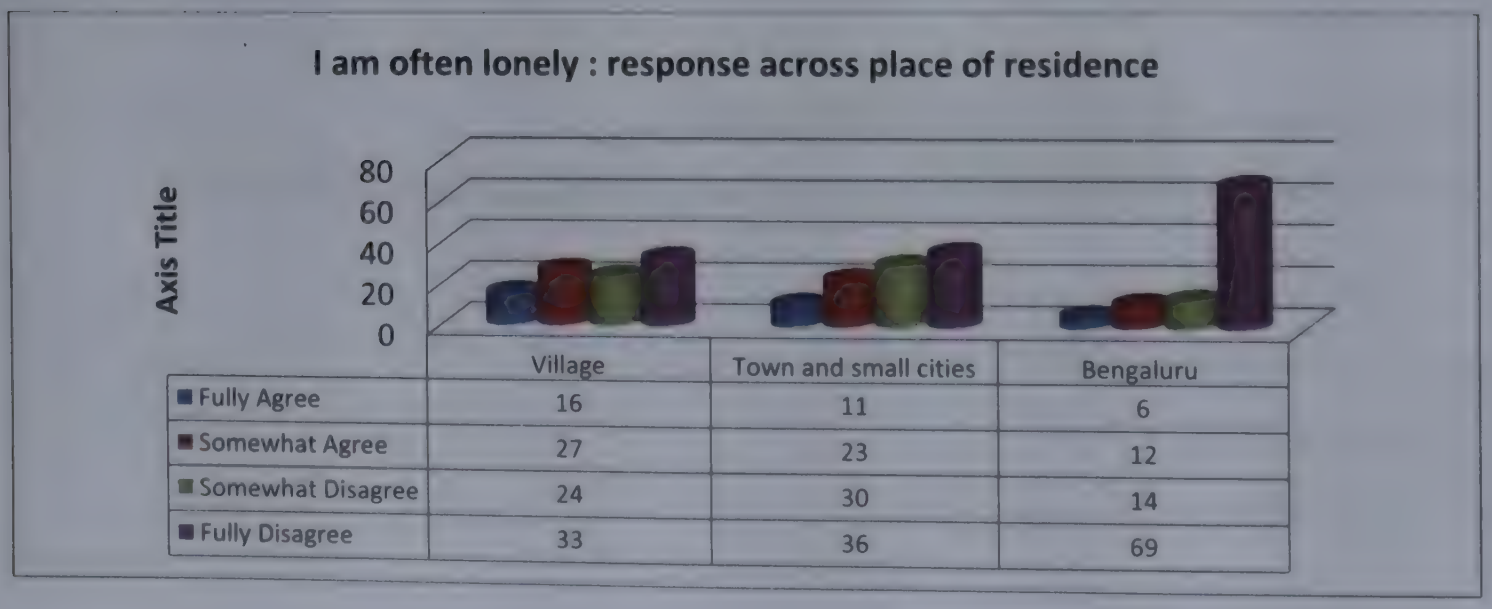


	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Very Low SES	35	22	23	20
Low SES	26	30	25	18
Middle SES	22	38	27	14
High SES	18	41	31	10

n-8459

A linked response that throws more light on the typical dilemmas of Indian youth is the response to the statement that I cannot change anything about most things that disturb me. A little less than half the respondents agreed with this statement.

Table/Chart 3.11



	Village	Town and small cities	Bengaluru
Fully Agree	16	11	6
Somewhat Agree	27	23	12
Somewhat Disagree	24	30	14
Fully Disagree	33	36	69

n - 8523

A final dimension of the individual autonomy and group identity continuum is the question to which youth responded – do you often feel lonely. Four of every ten respondents responded to this question in the affirmative. The sense of loneliness was interesting more in rural Karnataka than in urban areas. In Bengaluru city, only two of every ten respondents conceded that they felt lonely very often. By implication, eight of every ten respondents disagreed that they felt lonely very often. Interestingly, seven of every ten of youth in Bengaluru interviewed strongly disagreed with the students. It is found that there is no significance variation in the response to this question among different age groups among youth, gender and marital status.

Feeling Lonely

This is about Dr. Anitha (name changed) , a 28 year old doctor with a Post Graduate degree who lives in a city

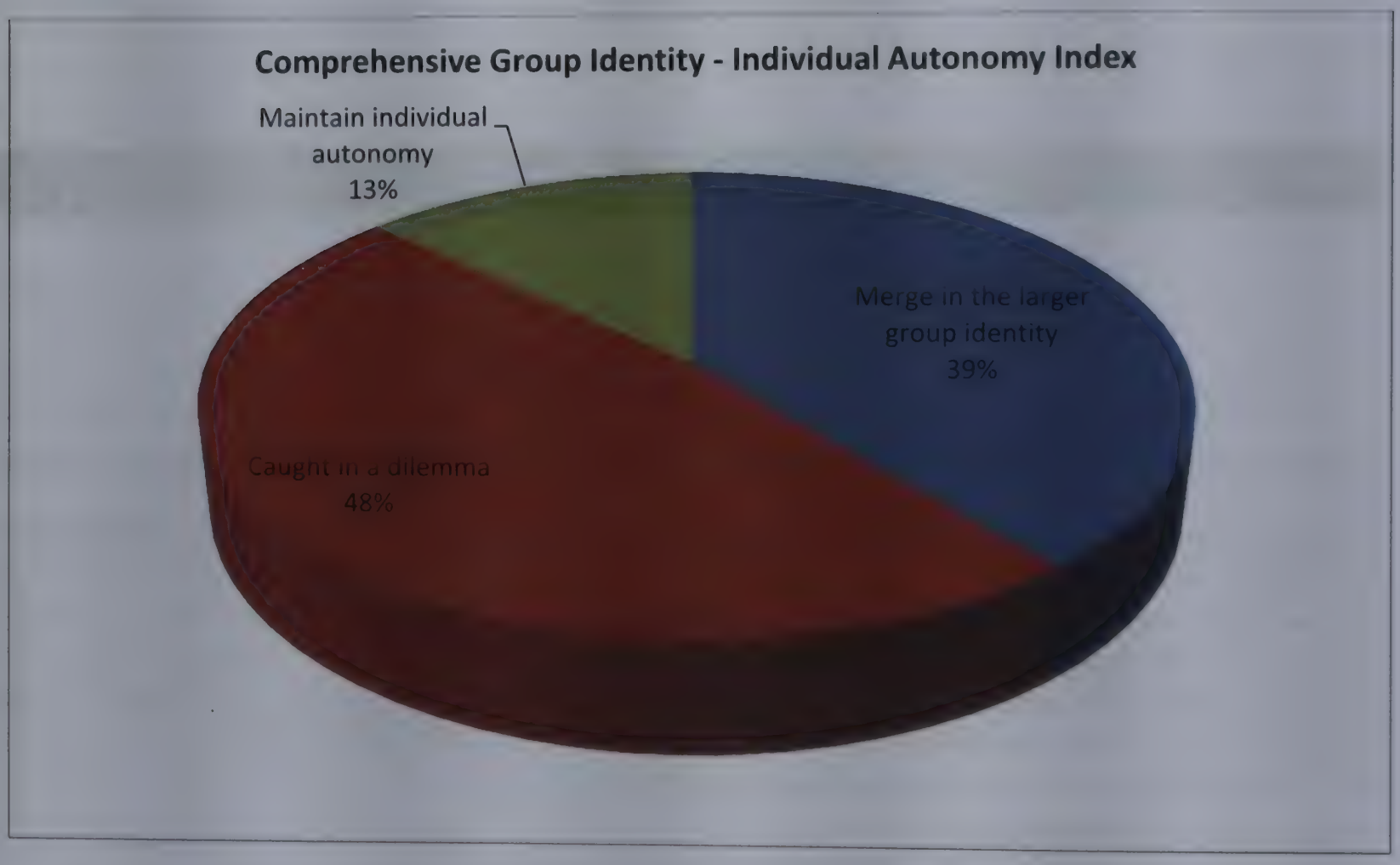
Anitha grew up studying in a small town in Karnataka. Asked, if she felt lonely, without people her own age to spend time with in a small town, Anitha replied that though she realized and accepted that she often was left alone and she did feel disappointed in not having friends of her. She felt her family atmosphere never made her feel lonely. She mentions that she shared all the days' happenings at home with her mother, and she would talk incessantly on all aspects of her life, from school lessons to what happened with her friends. She says her whole family including her older brother and father knew all that was happening in her life at any point of time. She even says her father had very few friends and would come almost immediately after work and they would spend long hours in each other's company. She says that they never had to make family time because the minute everyone returned home all the time was family time. She adds that after going through the day's happenings, she would feel tired of all the talking and then picked up her books to study. When at school, she had good relations with the teachers and therefore again not felt lonely or helpless.

From Case Study : `Being a Doctor` CERSSE

13796

Given the dilemma of young people to be part of a group identity even as they maintain their individual autonomy, a comprehensive index involving the above questions (save the one on money being important to make one happy). When developing a comprehensive index on attempting to maintain one's identity in the midst of pressures to conform to group norms, it was found that most young people are on the horns of a dilemma. Over one third tended to give more importance to the group identity while one of every ten focused on retaining their individual identity. The index clearly symbolizes the dilemmas that confront today's young people in the state.

Table/Chart 3.12

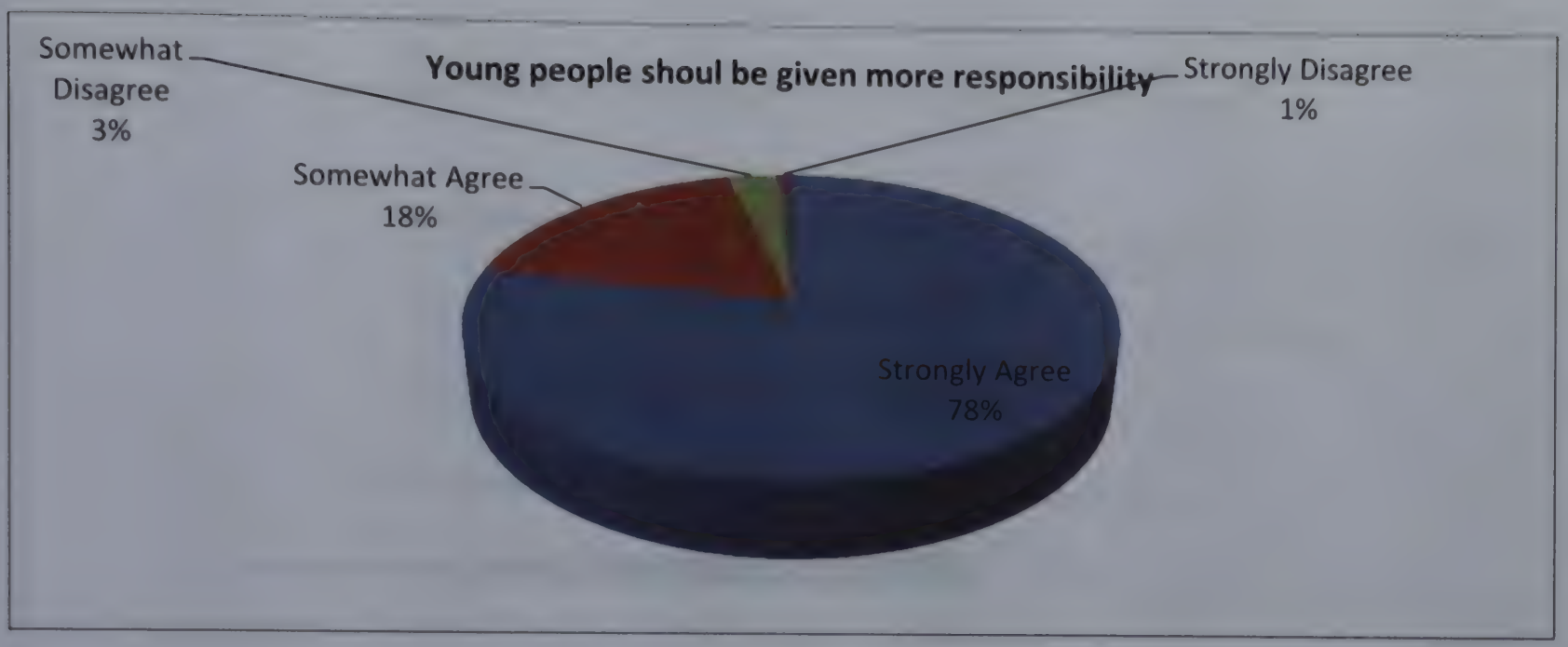

Comprehensive Group Identity - Individual Autonomy Index
Maintain individual autonomy 13%
Merge in the larger group identity 39%
Caught in a dilemma 48%

n - 7675

3.2 Taking on Responsibility

Young people were asked whether they should be given more responsibility. An overwhelmingly high percentage endorsed the point. All but six percentage of the youth opined that young people needed to be given more responsibility.

Table/Chart 3.13



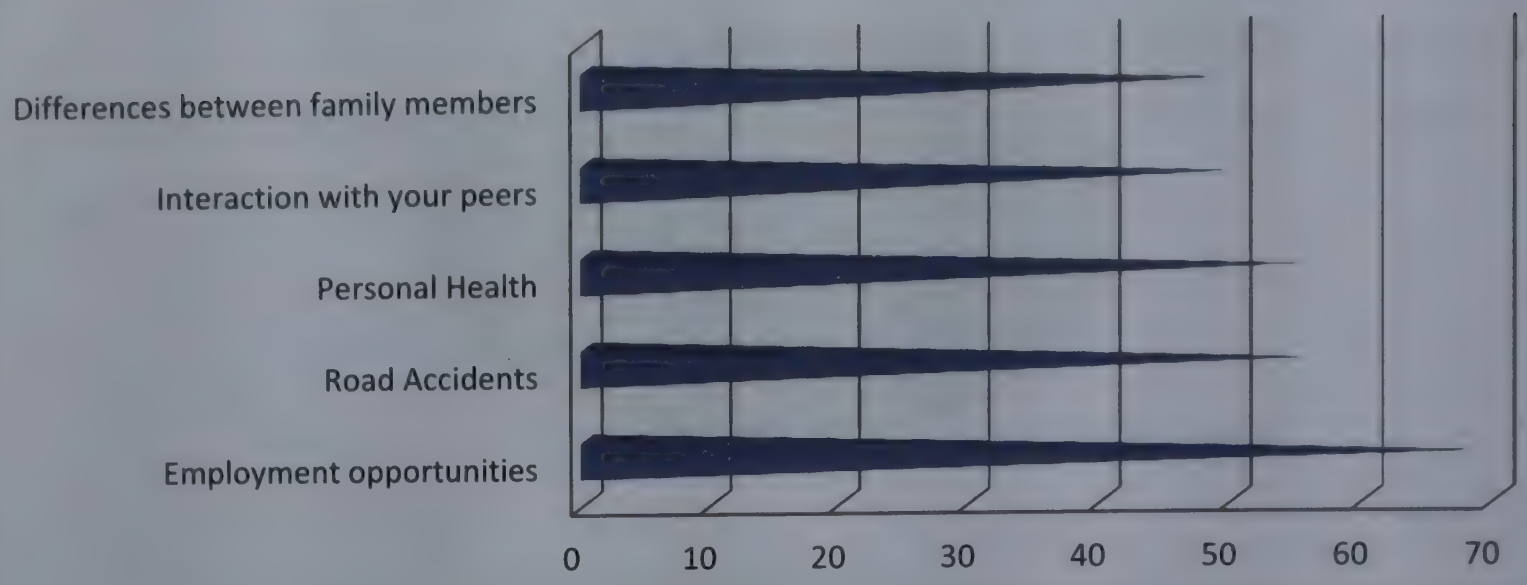
n - 8809

The `strongly agree` response to the question increases as we move to urban areas. In Bengaluru, all but seven percent of the youth said that they strongly agreed with this statement. The statement was more strongly endorsed by those who were students and those seeking employment as compared to those who were already employed. This in a sense represents the aspirations of a new generation in Karnataka and the frustration (to a limited extent) of not being provided with the opportunities which they believe they deserve.

3.3 : Anxieties of Young people

What are young people in the state insecure about? The survey asked the youth a set of questions that would indicate their anxieties and insecurities in life. Five issues about which young people generally have anxieties were mentioned and the respondents were given three answer options to choose from: great extent (of anxiety), somewhat or not at all.

Table Chart 3.14

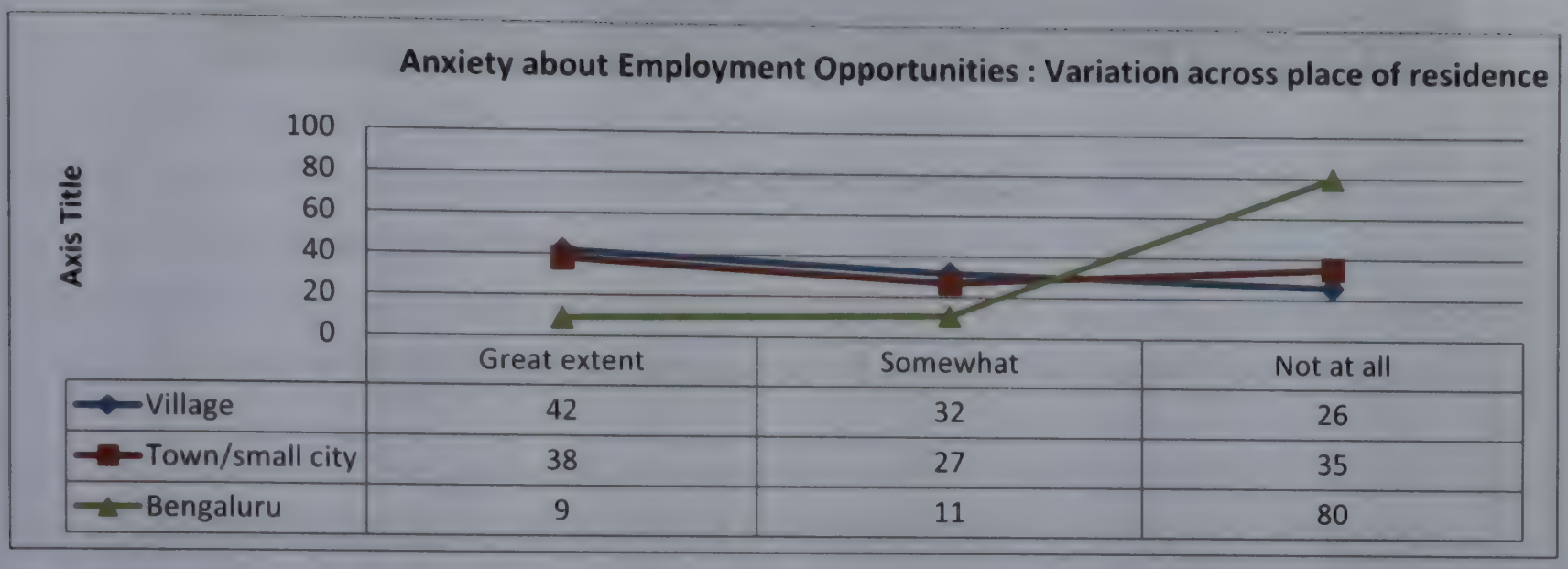


	Employment opportunities	Road Accidents	Personal Health	Interaction with your peers	Differences between family members
Series1	69	56	55	50	49

n - 8130

The highest degree of anxiety experienced by young people in Karnataka was about their employment/ career. Close to seven of every ten respondents felt somewhat or greatly anxious about the future career and employment prospects. The national study of the youth also found that the highest level of anxiety among young people was about their future employment prospects.

Table / Chart 3.15

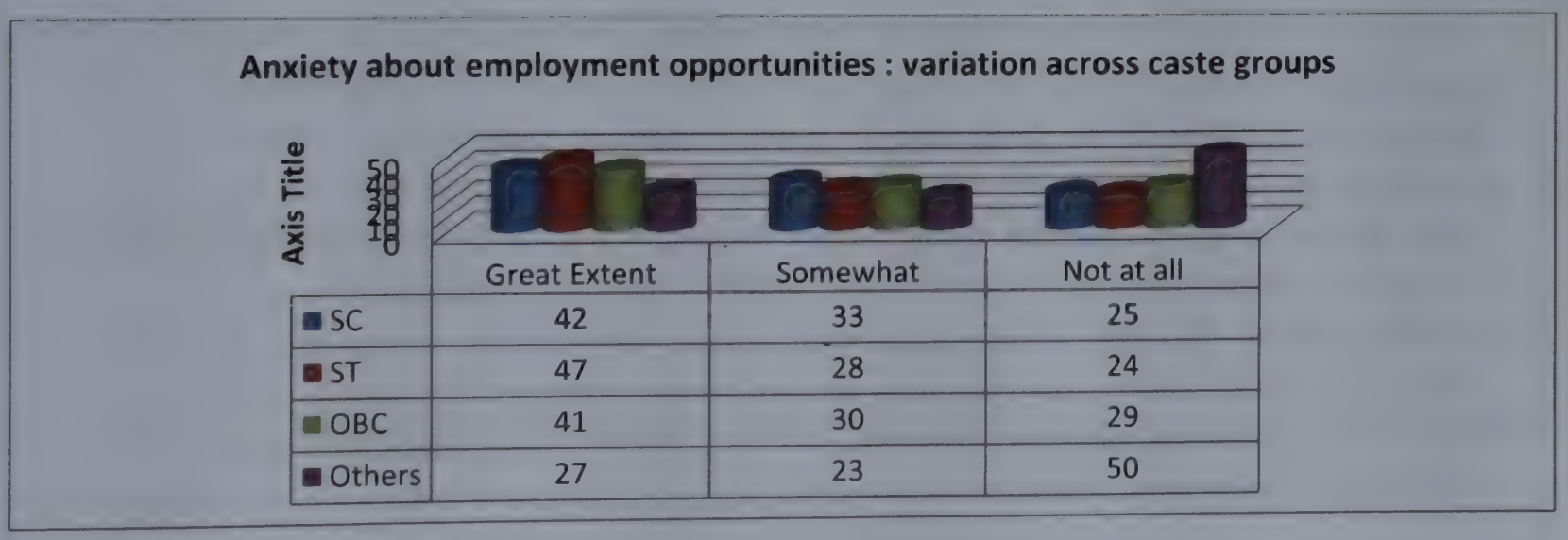


	Great extent	Somewhat	Not at all
Village	42	32	26
Town/small city	38	27	35
Bengaluru	9	11	80

n - 8273

The highest anxiety about employment opportunities was among the rural youth. Three-fourths of young people in villages were anxious about job prospects. Close to two-thirds of young people in towns and small cities expressed anxieties about their career and employment. In Bengaluru, only three of every ten young people expressed concerns about their employment prospects and career. Caste too appeared to make a difference. The limited access to opportunities to develop the skill set to compete for jobs was clearly reflected in the attitude of young people towards their employment opportunities.

Table/ Chart 3.16



	Great Extent	Somewhat	Not at all
SC	42	33	25
ST	47	28	24
OBC	41	30	29
Others	27	23	50

n – 8273

Career Options

Mr Mohit (Name Changed) 17 years old, Father : Defence Personnel; Mother Teacher

Mohit is the older of two siblings of two working parents. While the father works for the defence forces the mother started as a teacher and currently heads a school. He has recently passed the 12th std examinations and has chosen to pursue pilot training at Asia's foremost flying school. From his childhood days he has dreamt of becoming a pilot. He remembers his first flight, when he was allowed into the cockpit and met the pilots. He remembers asking them about their life as pilots and they talked about the rigorous work schedules, staying away from home and fewer job opportunities. His was not dissuaded by their remarks and believes the remarks were meant to discourage future competition. He understands that coming from a middle class family, education and ensuing career decided one's life sustenance. His remarked that his career choice was not completely approved of by his parents, who wanted him to pursue engineering at one of the country's premier institutes. Realizing the possible resistance that his career choice would attract from his parents, his started' preparing' them for the eventual decision right after 10th std results. He also researched well into his other possible career options and cleared the entrance examination for one of the country's top five law schools. He had this as the back-up option while applying to the flying school. It was important, said Mohit, to have a good back up, for him not to be desperate and therefore having choices to choose from. He also realizes that the flying school training program is a skill-oriented program and not a 'proper graduation degree' and therefore has decided to take up a graduate degree through a correspondence course in Business studies as he eventually plans to start his own business venture and his earnings from serving as a pilot would be his initial capital for the start –up. He is not very clear about the line of business, but would figure it out in the interim period.

(From Case Study `Boys at 17 ... Men of Tomorrow` CERSSE)

Dalits and Tribals in the state appeared to be more anxious about job prospects with more than three-fourths of the respondents in this category expressing anxiety in this regard. Among the OBCs, seven of every ten respondents were anxious about their job prospects. Among the other castes, there was a more or less equal divide between those who were anxious about their career prospects as compared to those who had no concerns in this regard. It is evident that caste continues to be an indicator of access to opportunities and this is mirrored in the approach of young people.

Given the challenges of the present age, young people appeared anxious about their health and road accidents. More than half the respondents expressed anxieties about their future health and about the possibility of road accidents. Fear of road accidents was a bigger concern in urban areas. Health concerns seem to cut across all social groups and locations.

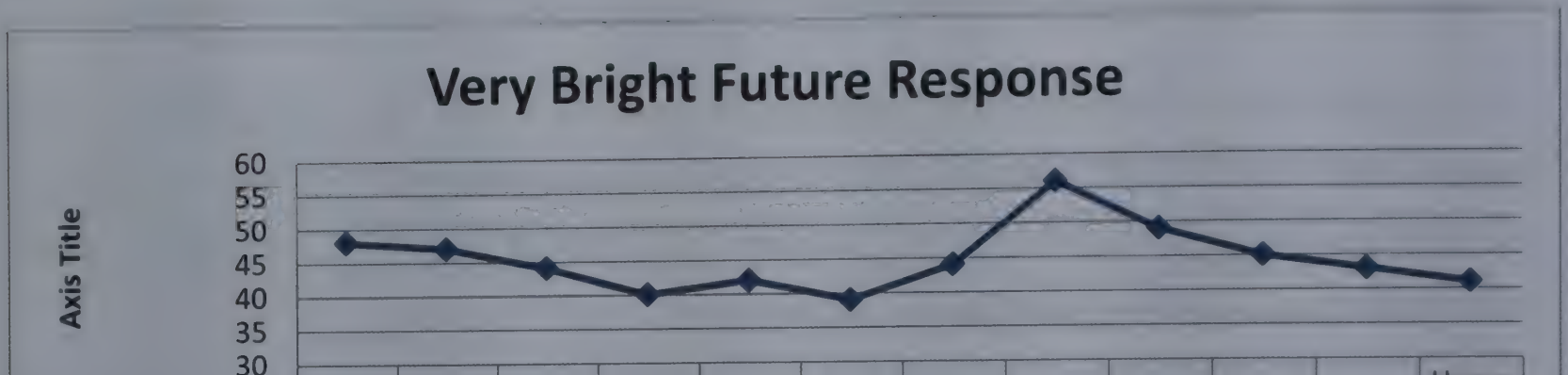
Youth also expressed concerns about their capacity to maintain good relations with their peers and were anxious about their differences with family members. Close to half the respondents expressed concerns about the same. There are two issues that assume relevance. First there is today an increased social pressure on the youth to be `accepted` by their peers. This often results in young people consciously adjusting their behavior to become more in sync with their peers. This often could be a cause of tensions – both in terms of aligning to others and the consequences of that alignment. Secondly, being in tune with peers could often cause tensions and conflicts at home especially with ones parents. This is reflected in the heightened anxiety about differences with family members.

3.4 : Optimism about the future

How optimistic are young people in Karnataka about their future? The survey asked respondents how did they foresee their future? They were given a menu of four answer options : very bright, somewhat bright, no difference, dark/bleak future. It is heartening to note that young people carry a tinge of optimism and positive thinking. More than eight of every ten said that they foresaw a very bright or

bright future. Those less than 25, were more optimistic about their future than the young people in their early 30s. Young people who were more affluent were likely to be optimistic about their future as compared to those who were poorer. The idealism of the younger among the youth is clearly apparent in the expression of greater optimism. A similar optimism was voiced by the young people in the All India youth study.

Table/ Chart 3.17



	14 – 19	20 – 24	25 – 29	30 - 34	Very Low SES	Low SES	Middle SES	High SES	Student	Unemployed	Fully employed	Home maker / House wife
Very Bright	48	47	44	40	42	39	44	56	49	45	43	41

n - 3870

It is important to record that those who were employed and home makers were less likely to say that they see their future as bright as compared to those still studying and the unemployed. May be the reality check they encountered when dealing with the real world tempered their optimism. Students and unemployed youth still had an optimism about a bright/better future.

In this chapter, an overview of the aspirations and anxieties of young people in Karnataka has been presented. Their aspirations indicate that they very much are aligned to making their state a knowledge society. Their emphasis on educational opportunities indicates this fact. Youth in the state are singular in their commitment to take on responsibilities and have a refreshingly positive outlook. They are very

much caught up in the dilemma of gelling with the group identity they are a part of / wish to be a part of even while struggling to retain their individual autonomy.

Chapter 4

LIFESTYLE CHOICES OF THE YOUNG

The life style preference of young people is clearly linked to their economic circumstances and whether they live in urban, semi-urban or rural areas. Semi-urban areas appear to be the cusp of change, with aspiration levels being significantly high in towns and cities.

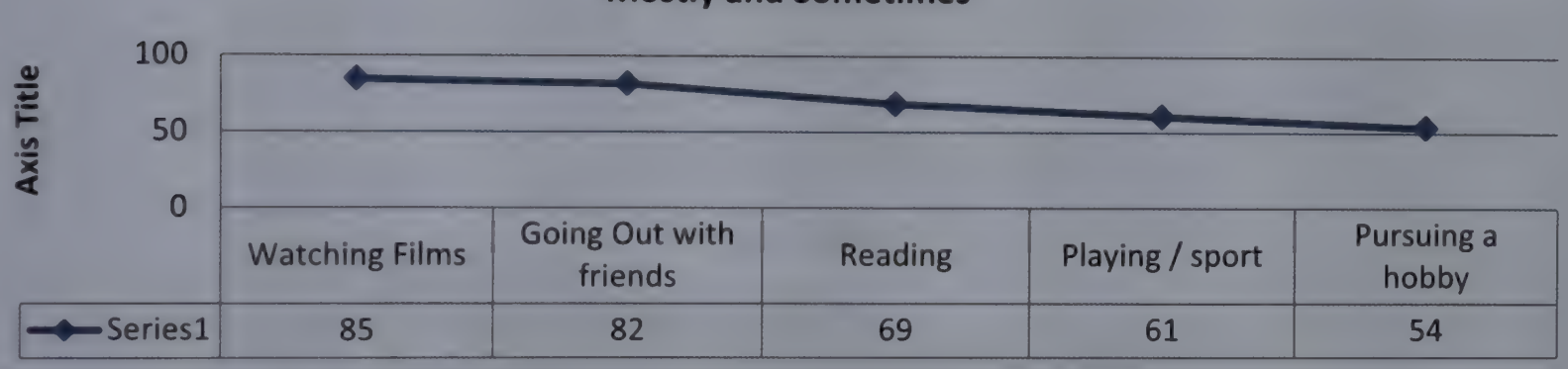
The survey attempted to provide a snapshot of the lifestyle preferences of young people. This is indicative of the influence of the times on their choices and options.

4.1 : Free time activities

Respondents were asked what they would like doing in their free time. Their views on five free time activities are being considered for analysis. They include going out with friends; reading books/ magazines/ periodicals; playing a game/sport; watching films; and pursuing a hobby. There were three answer options: mostly, sometimes and never.

Table/Chart 4.1

What do you like doing in your free time
Mostly and Sometimes



	Watching Films	Going Out with friends	Reading	Playing / sport	Pursuing a hobby
Series1	85	82	69	61	54

n – 8797

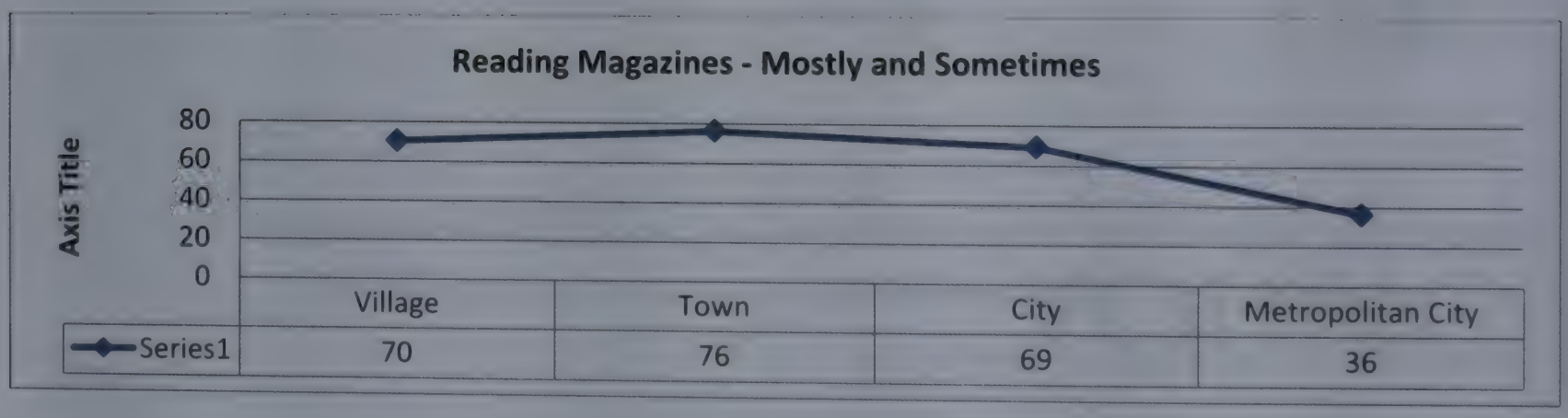
All but fifteen percent of the young people in the state said that watching films was a common leisure time activity. Eight of ten young people said that going out with friends was a leisure activity. There is a clear link between the two as watching films could be an activity they did with their friends. Further, given the penetration of the electronic media and private television channels, especially in the regional languages, it is not surprising that watching films (often with friends) was seen as the most common leisure activity. Reading books and magazines was a favourite pastime of seven of every ten youth. Six of every ten spoke of playing a sport/ game in their leisure time and a little over a half spoke of pursuing their chosen hobby during their spare time. Reading as ranking much below watching films is again a reflection of the times wherein reading habits among the younger generation is not as attractive an

option as say a few decades ago. This has a lot to do with access to newer forms of information and the pressure on the time of young people.

There are important variations in leisure time activities across different SES levels. Youth from the lowest SES are most likely to watch films as compared to any other class. Close to one fourth of the young people in the very low SES said `mostly` when it came to watching films. This reduced to two in every ten when it comes to the young people in the high SES. Access to a sport/ game and reading books and magazines is limited to those in the higher SES category. One is the question of access and the second is the question of time. Those in the lower SES may not have access to the above mentioned leisure activities as many of those have financial implications. Secondly, their typical day and activities may not allow for time to pursue leisure activities.

Reading books and magazines was reported to be a pastime in which minimum time is spent by youth in Bengaluru. In towns more than three-fourths of the youth said that they read books and magazines in the spare time.

Table/Chart 4.2



n - 8910

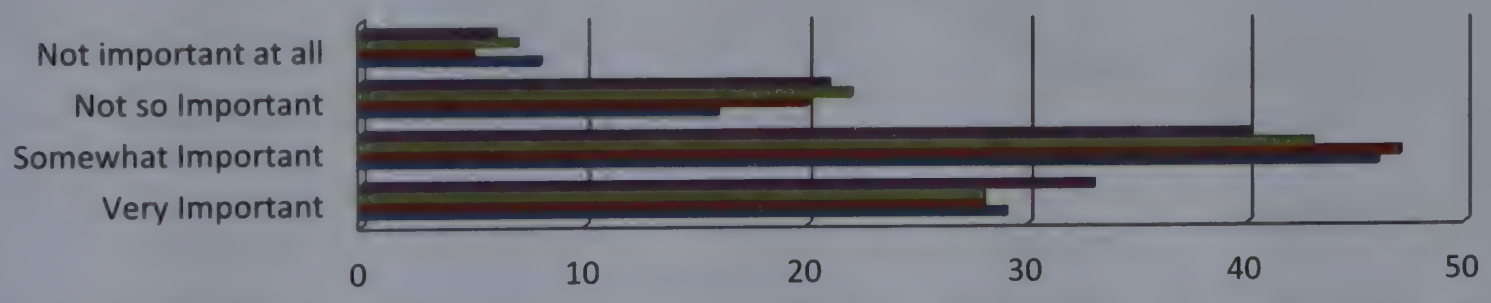
Seven of every ten youth in a village and in small cities said that they spent their free time reading. In Bengaluru just one third of the youth stated that they read books and magazines in their spare time. Bengaluru is believed that have a higher percentage of youth who are literate. Yet reading is not a favoured pastime of young people in this metropolis. Close to three in every youth who had completed

secondary school and two in every youth who had done matriculation did not ever read books in their free time. In urban areas, there are many more sources of information that young people have access to that the habit of reading seems to have receded to the background. The attention span which reading requires is also much more limited in the younger generation of urbanites given the pressures on their time and easy access to alternative sources which may be less effective but in the immediate context, less time consuming.

4.2: Dressing up in Style

How important did young people think it was to dress up in the latest style? Across the state, young people saw dressing up in the latest style as being quite important. Three of every ten young people said that this was very important. More than four of every ten respondents said that it was important. Overall, close to three fourth of young people averred that dressing up in the latest style was very important or important.

Table/Chart 4.3



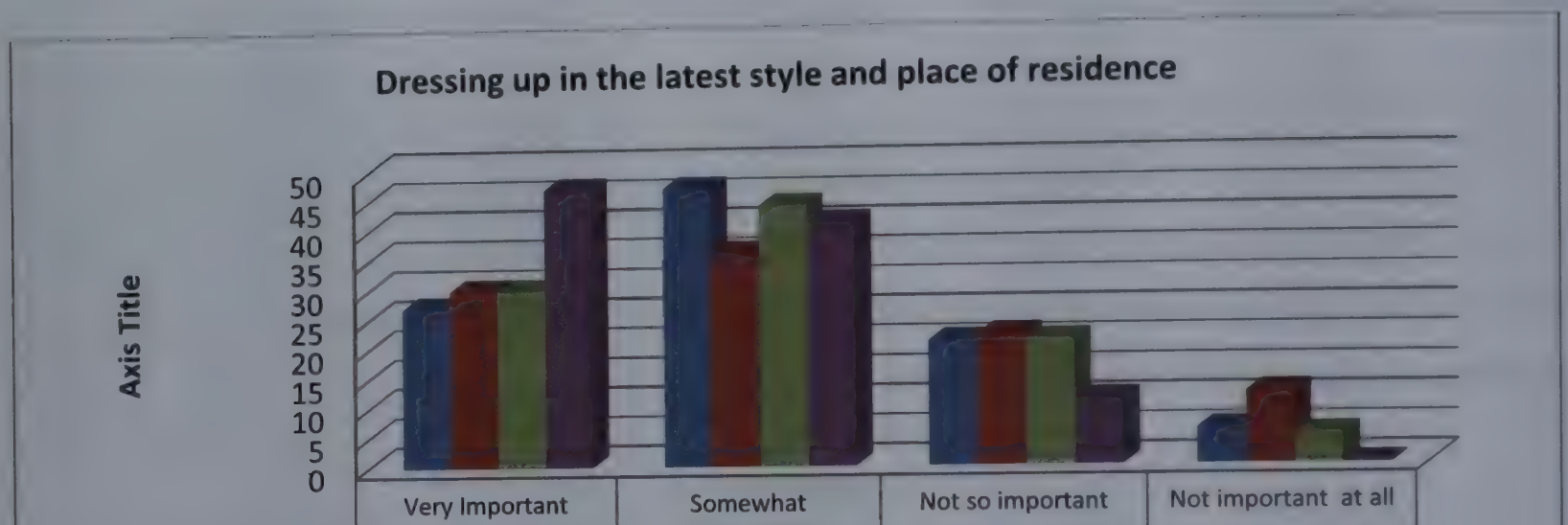
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not so Important	Not important at all
High SES	33	40	21	6
Middle SES	28	43	22	7
Low SES	28	47	20	5
Very Low SES	29	46	16	8

n -8862

There was little variation in the aspiration to dress up in the latest style across SES. Both those in the lowest SES and the Highest SES responded to this question in a more or less similar manner. There was a mere four percentage point difference between young people in the very low SES and high SES who

said that dressing up in latest style was very important, with the high SES being at the higher end. This evens out when those who say it is somewhat important are added to this category. It is clear that dressing up in style could well be an aspiration rather than a reality. Even those belonging to the lower SES may aspire to dress up in the latest style even though it may be something they would find difficult to actually put into practice.

Table/ Chart 4.4



	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not so important	Not important at all
Village	27	47	21	6
Town	30	36	22	12
City	30	44	21	5
Metropolitan City	47	41	11	0

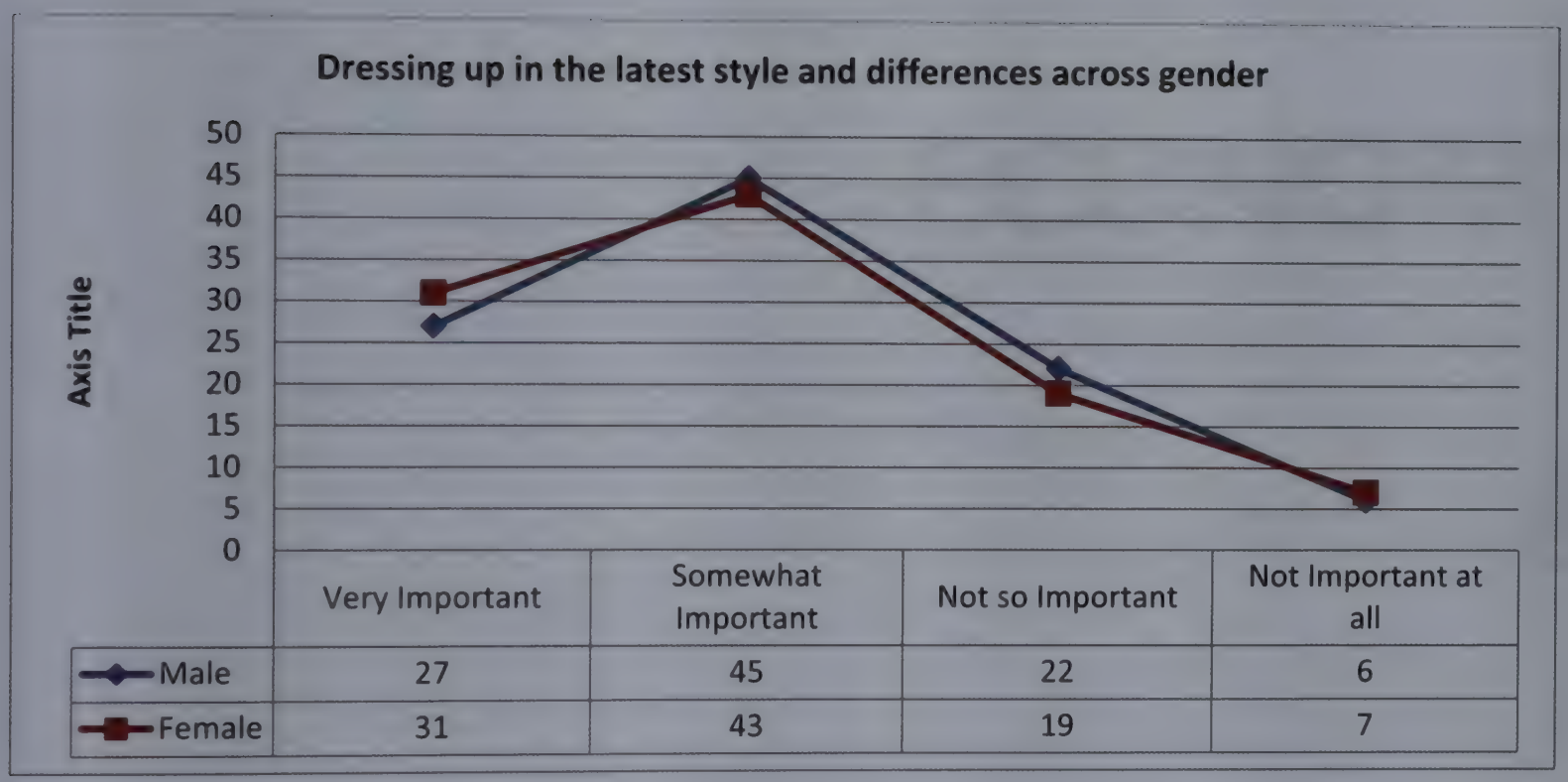
n -8862

There is a significant variation in the response to this question depending on the place of residence of young people. The likelihood of young people saying that dressing up in the latest style is very important goes up as one goes from villages to urban areas. In the villages, a little over one-fourth of the youth said that dressing up in latest style was very important. In towns and small cities as many as three of every ten youth take that position. In Bengaluru, close to half the youth say it is very important. The variation across place of residence for the somewhat important is not that significant. Two of every ten youth in villages, towns and small cities would aver that dressing up in the latest style was not so important while only one in every ten youth in Bengaluru would take that stand. None of the respondents in Bengaluru said that dressing up in style was not at all important whereas in towns one of every ten respondents came up with this answer. Peer pressure is clearly evident in urban areas,

especially Bengaluru. To dress up in the latest style is seen as something that allows one to gain social acceptability and possibly respectability in ones peer group.

There was not much of a variation among young men and women on dressing up in the latest style. A marginally higher percentage of women said it was very important to dress up in the latest style. If the very important and somewhat important responses are clubbed together, the difference in the response between men and women is just two percentage points with women being at the higher end.

Table/Chart 4.5



	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not so Important	Not Important at all
Male	27	45	22	6
Female	31	43	19	7

n -8862

The All India study on youth had concluded

> The aspiration to dress up in the latest fashion appears have an influence upon the majority of the youth in the country. However, a distinction needs to be made between the actual capacity to dress up in fashionable clothes and the feeling that it is important to dress up in such a manner. Even among some of the youth who may not have the means to dress up in latest fashions,

the feeling that it is important to dress up is distinctly prevalent. This is evident in the responses of those groups who may find it a challenge to actually dress up in latest fashions but who still harbor a wish to be able to do so.

The Karnataka study finds something similar. The life style preference of young people is clearly linked to their economic circumstances and whether they live in urban, semi-urban or rural areas. Semi-urban areas appear to be the cusp of change, with aspiration levels being significantly high in towns and cities. Further, the aspiration for a particular life style may exist and need not be always translated into practice. This has its wider and deeper implications in terms of the existence of aspirations which often remain unfulfilled.

Chapter 5

The fact of political equality and the reality of `social inequality, is clearly mirrored in the views of the youth in the state.

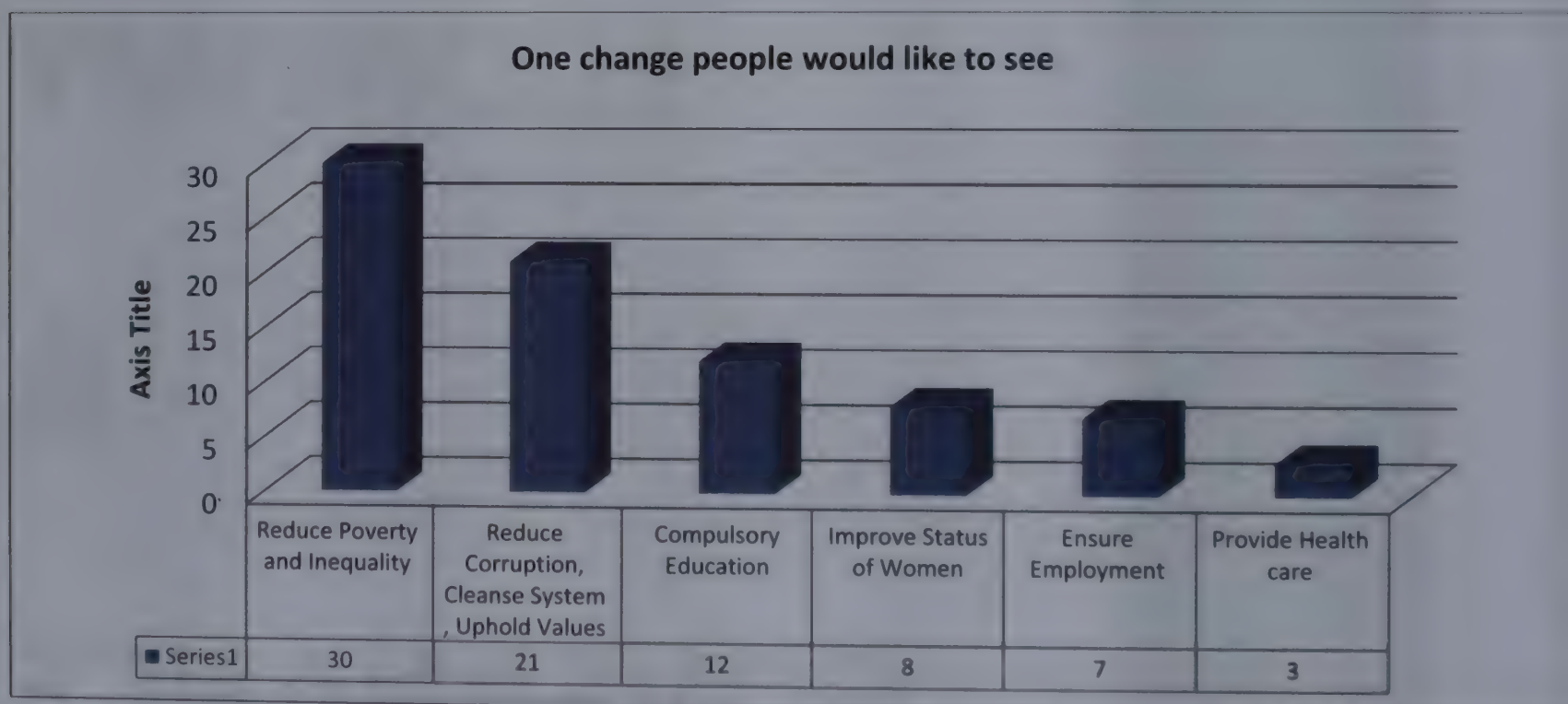
POLITICS, ECONOMY & GOVERNANCE

How do young people in the state view politics, governance and issues linked to the economy? The survey attempted to map the response of young people to critical questions relating to the ways politics pans out, the growth of the economy and the issues of public governance.

5.1: One thing young people would like to change

Young people were asked, if they had a chance what is the one thing that you would like to change? This was an open ended question and respondents had the option of stating whatever they felt. The same was exactly recoded and then coded.

Table/ Chart 5.1



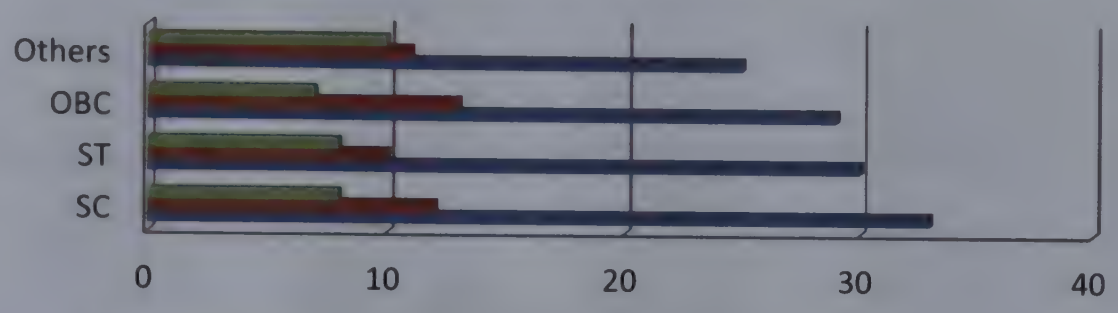
n-8403

Three of every ten of the respondents said that they would like to reduce poverty and inequality. Another two of every ten respondents said that if given a chance they would reduce corruption, cleanse/change the political system and restore importance to values. One of every ten said that they would like to vigorously implement compulsory education. Eight percent of the respondents felt that

they would give top priority to enhancing the status of women is society. Another seven percent focused on creating employment opportunities for all. A small percentage also favoured improving health care. The youth clearly have their heart (and head) in the right place! Their priorities reflect the larger order of preference that is expected from the government in terms of its intervention in society.

Table/ Chart 5.2

One change people would like to see : Across caste groups

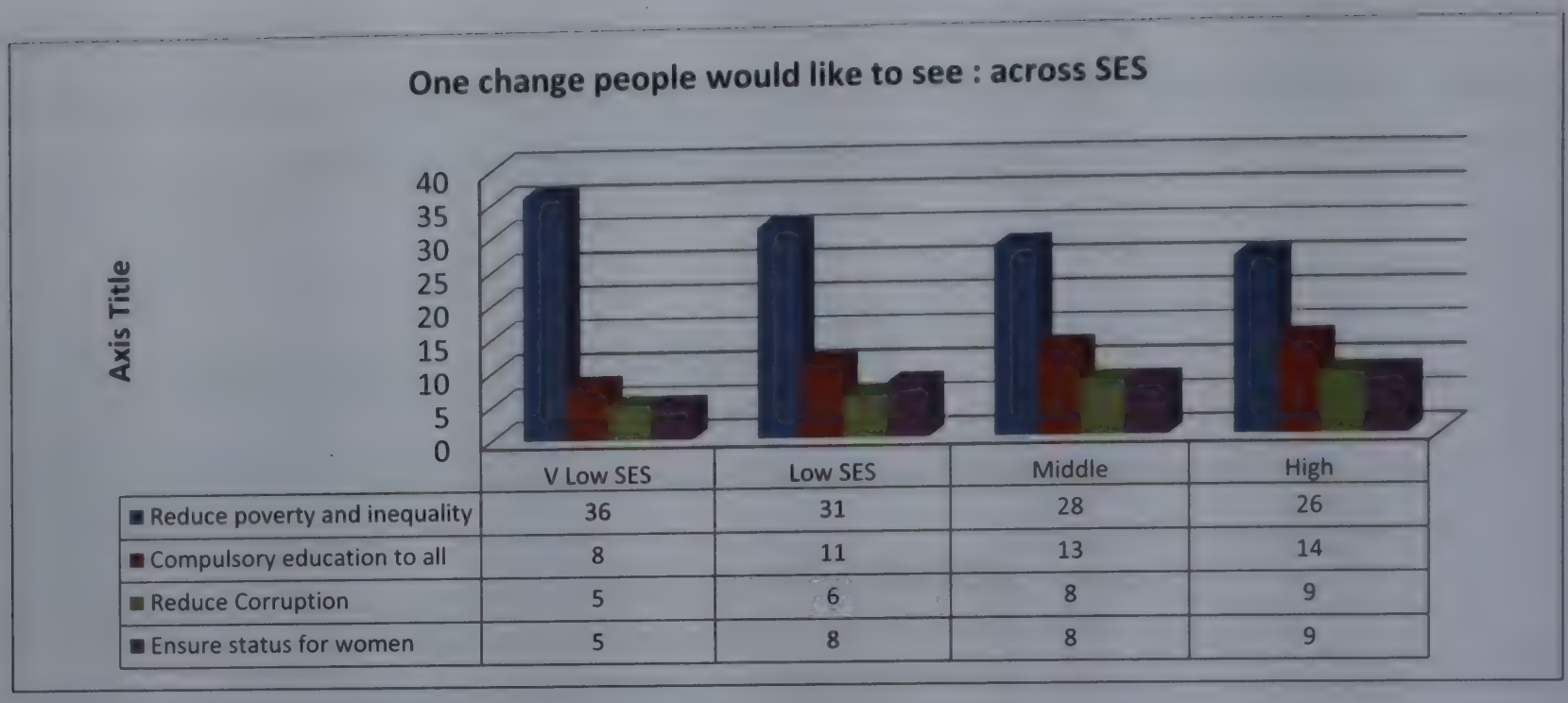


	SC	ST	OBC	Others
Ensure status for women	8	8	7	10
Compulsory education to all	12	10	13	11
Reduce poverty and inequality	33	30	29	25

n-8403

There were significant variations in response on a select set of social variables. Reducing poverty and inequality was a high priority for the Dalit and Tribal youth. One third of them identified these two themes as their first priority for change. In the case of the OBCs, close to three of every ten respondents, mentioned poverty alleviation and reducing inequality. Among the forward castes, a little over one fourth enumerated reducing poverty and ensuring equality as their top priority for change. There was not much variation across social groups in their assertion of compulsory education as a `change` priority. Here again the priority of young people reflected the immediacy of the environment they lived in and the world they faced. When talking of things they would like to change, youth tended to reflect on the immediate surroundings and circumstances they were part of and wished to bring a change in the same. Those from the lower SES clearly reflected this in their responses. This is clearly visible in the next chart and the narration that follows.

Table/ Chart 5.3



	V Low SES	Low SES	Middle	High
Reduce poverty and inequality	36	31	28	26
Compulsory education to all	8	11	13	14
Reduce Corruption	5	6	8	9
Ensure status for women	5	8	8	9

n-8403

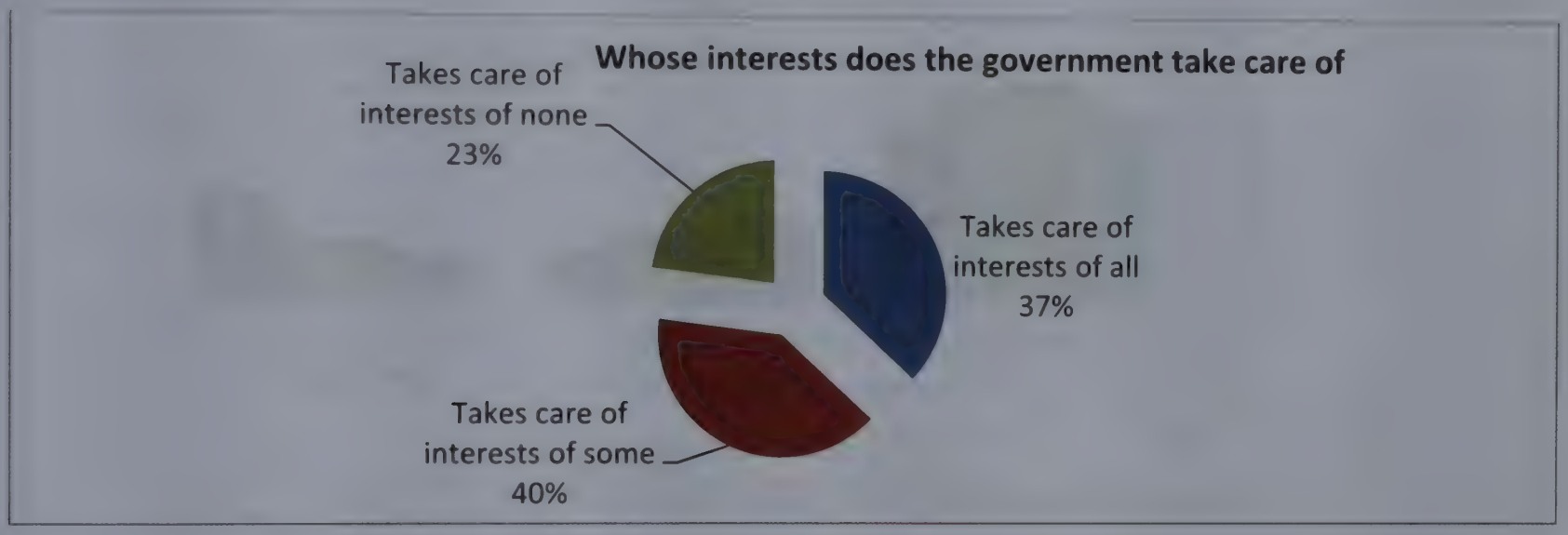
Priority for change also varied as per the SES of the respondent. As the SES rises , respondents are less likely to mention reducing poverty and inequality as a top priority. Among the lowest SES, it was mentioned by over one third of the respondents. It was stated by every three out of ten among the low and middle SES. Only a little over one-fourth of the high SES mentioned these two challenges as their top priority when it came to change they would like to usher in. Universalizing education was more likely to be a priority as ones SES rose. There was a clear six percentage point difference between the lowest SES and highest SES on this issue. The desire to reduce corruption and enhance the status of women received greater priority as SES improved.

There is a very clear difference in how men and women viewed enhancing the status of women as a top priority. If thirteen percent of women mentioned improving the status of women as their top priority for change, it was outlined as priority number one by only three percent of men - clear ten percentage point difference.

5.2: Whose interests does the government take care of?

It is often argued that the impact of governance is best assessed not in terms of the quality and intent of government policies but its impact on the people. Do young people in our society think that the government takes care of the interest of people like them? When the response of those interviewed was sought they were given a menu of three options: takes care of the interests of all, of some and of none. A little over one thirds of the youth felt that the government takes care of the interests of all. Four out of ten felt that it takes care of the interests of some and a little less than one fourth felt that it takes care of the interests of none.

Table/Chart 5.4


Whose interests does the government take care of
Takes care of interests of none 23%
Takes care of interests of all 37%
Takes care of interests of some 40%

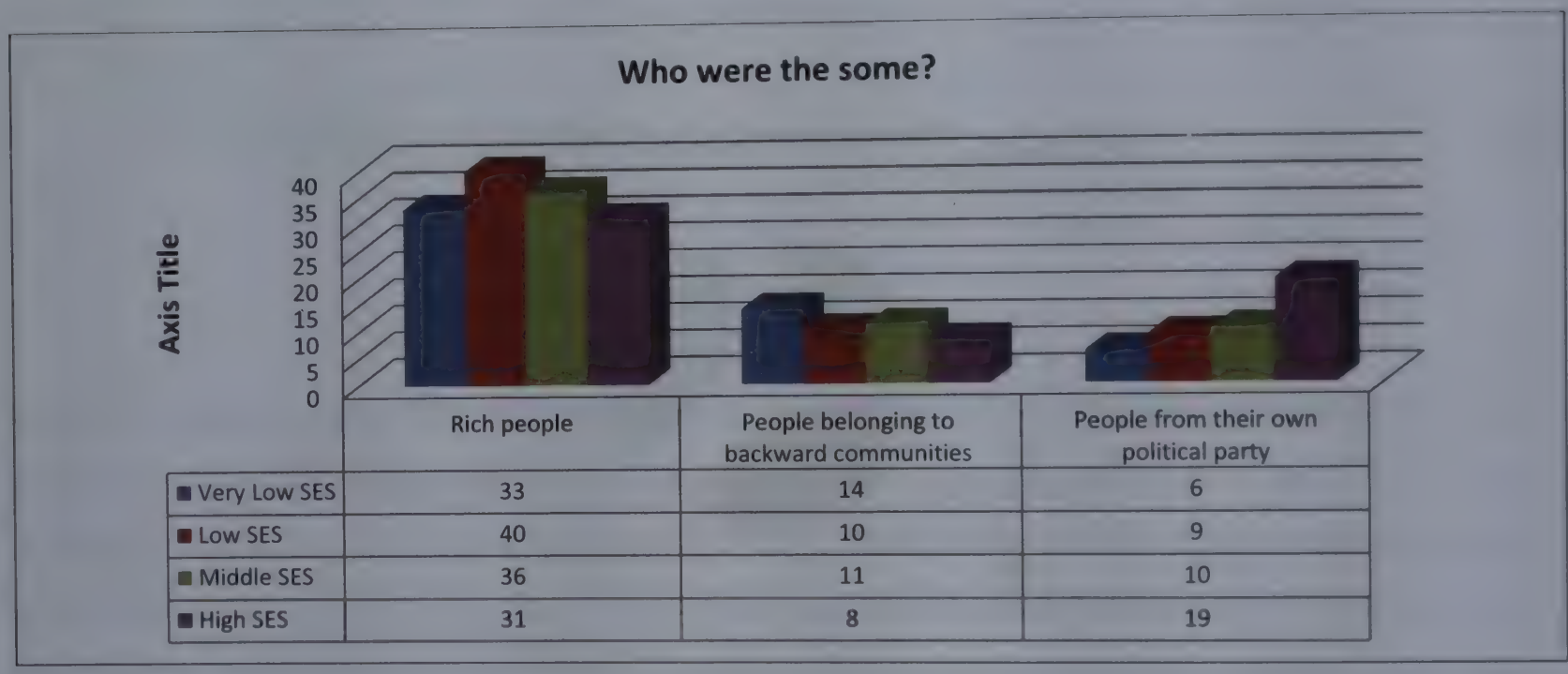
n - 8615

To be able to analyze the issue better a supplementary question was asked to those who said some: Who are those some? This was an open ended question and the exact response of those interviewed was noted down and then classified and coded.

What is clearly evident is that among the youth who said that the government takes care of the interests of some, close to four of every ten indicated that the some were the rich. The middle class and those who were in the low SES were more likely to say that the government was for the rich as compared to those in the High SES. Even among those in the high SES, three of every ten youth who felt that the government served the interests of a few, identified that select group as the rich. Two of every ten

youth from among the high SES who felt that the government worked for only a select few identified them elite as people from the political party which enjoyed power. A little over ten percent of the middle class and lower SES also named the supporters of the ruling political party as the ones whose interests government protected. The youth belonging to lower SES also tended to believe that the backward castes were the ones whose interests the government protected, with the middle class and high SES supporting the same with a little lesser intensity.

Table/Chart 5.5

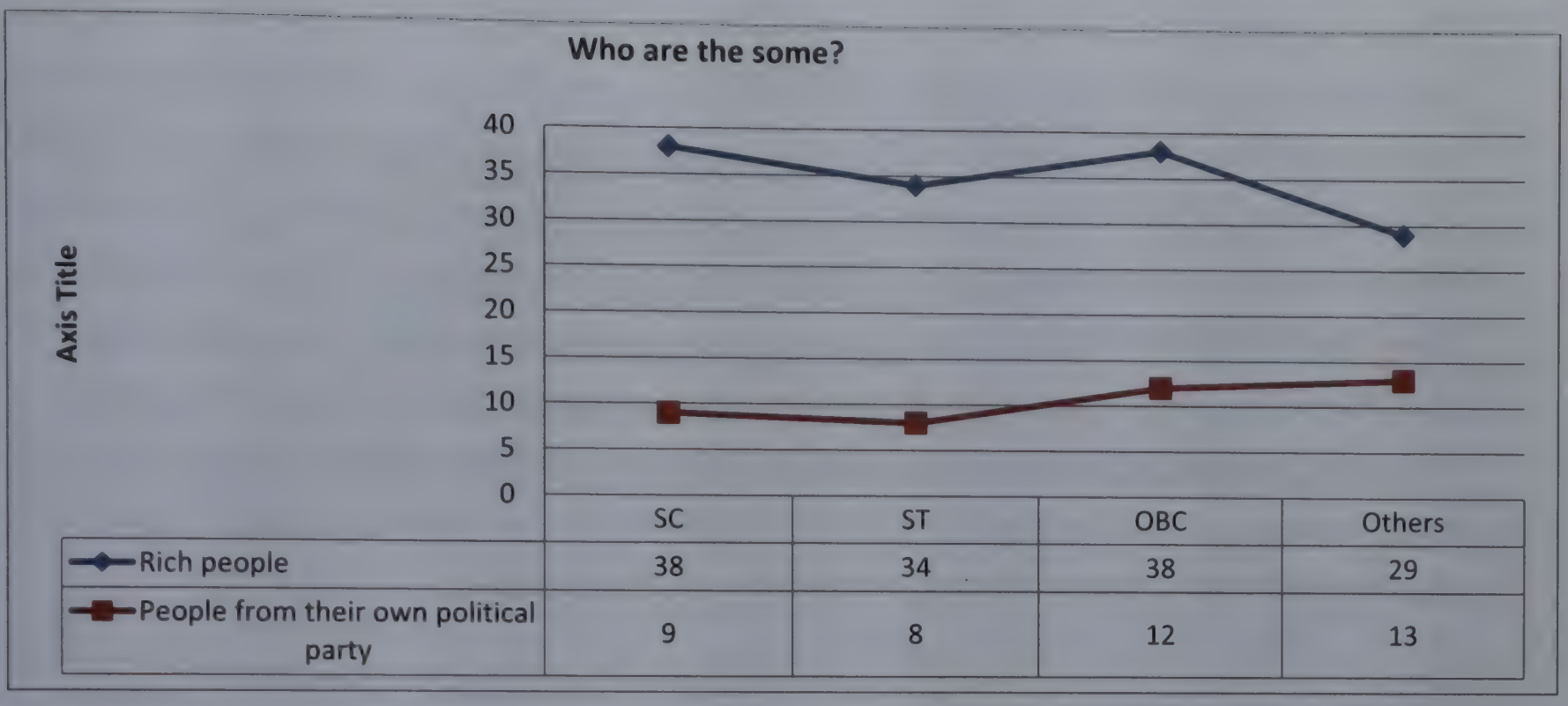


	Rich people	People belonging to backward communities	People from their own political party
Very Low SES	33	14	6
Low SES	40	10	9
Middle SES	36	11	10
High SES	31	8	19

n - 3831

Among the dalit youth, close to four of every ten of those who believed that the government takes care of the interests of a few, identified them as the rich. A similar sentiment was expressed by the OBCs. Among the forward caste youth, only three of every ten and a little over one third of the tribals held this view. Youth from among the OBCs and Forward Castes were more likely than the Dalits and Tribals to say that it was the supporters of the ruling party whose interests the government served. The tendency of those who were outside the margins of growth and development to believe that the government served the interests of only the rich was evident in the response of the youth.

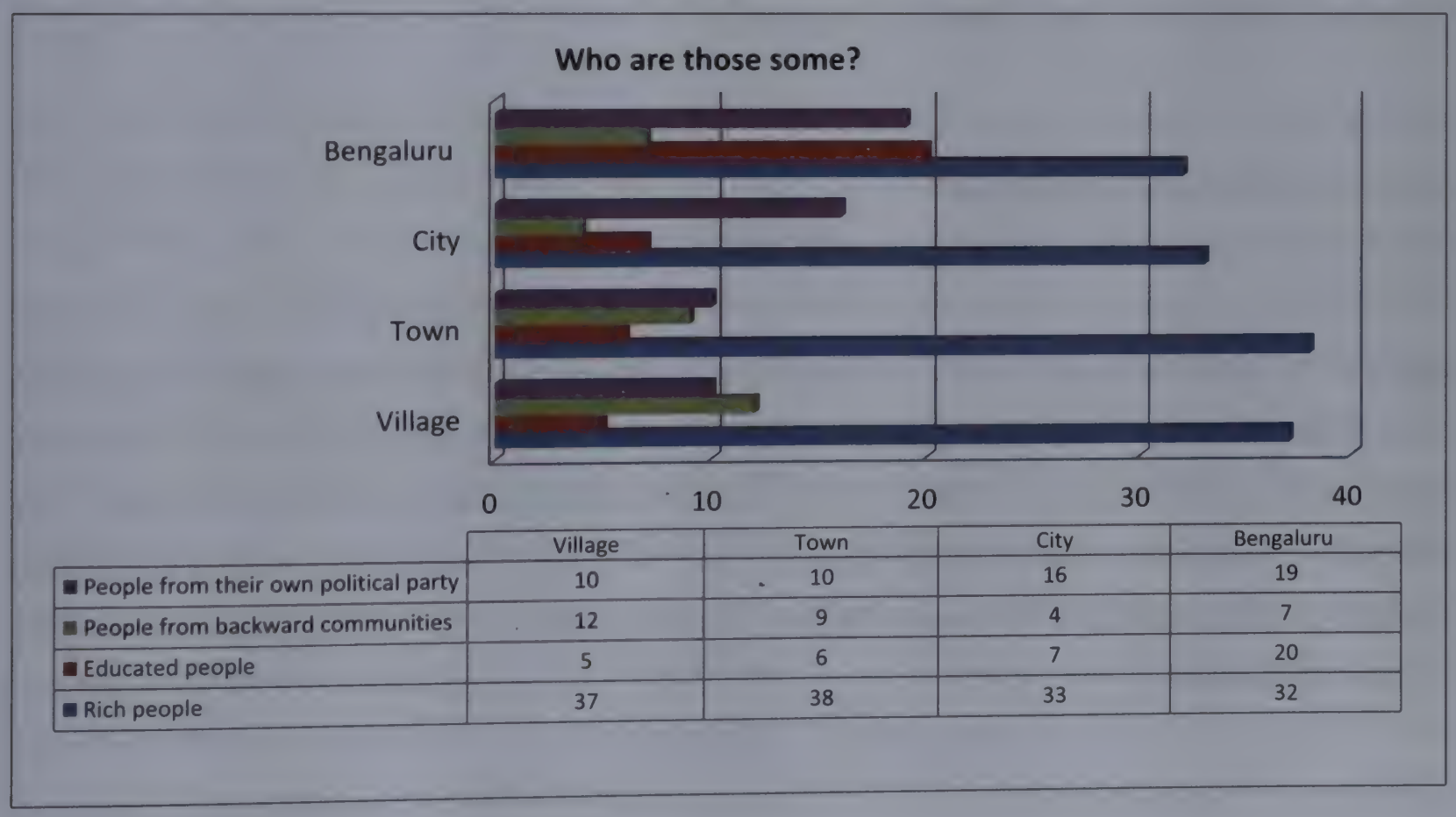
Table/Chart 5.6



	SC	ST	OBC	Others
Rich people	38	34	38	29
People from their own political party	9	8	12	13

n - 3831

Table/Chart 5.7



	Village	Town	City	Bengaluru
People from their own political party	10	10	16	19
People from backward communities	12	9	4	7
Educated people	5	6	7	20
Rich people	37	38	33	32

n – 3831

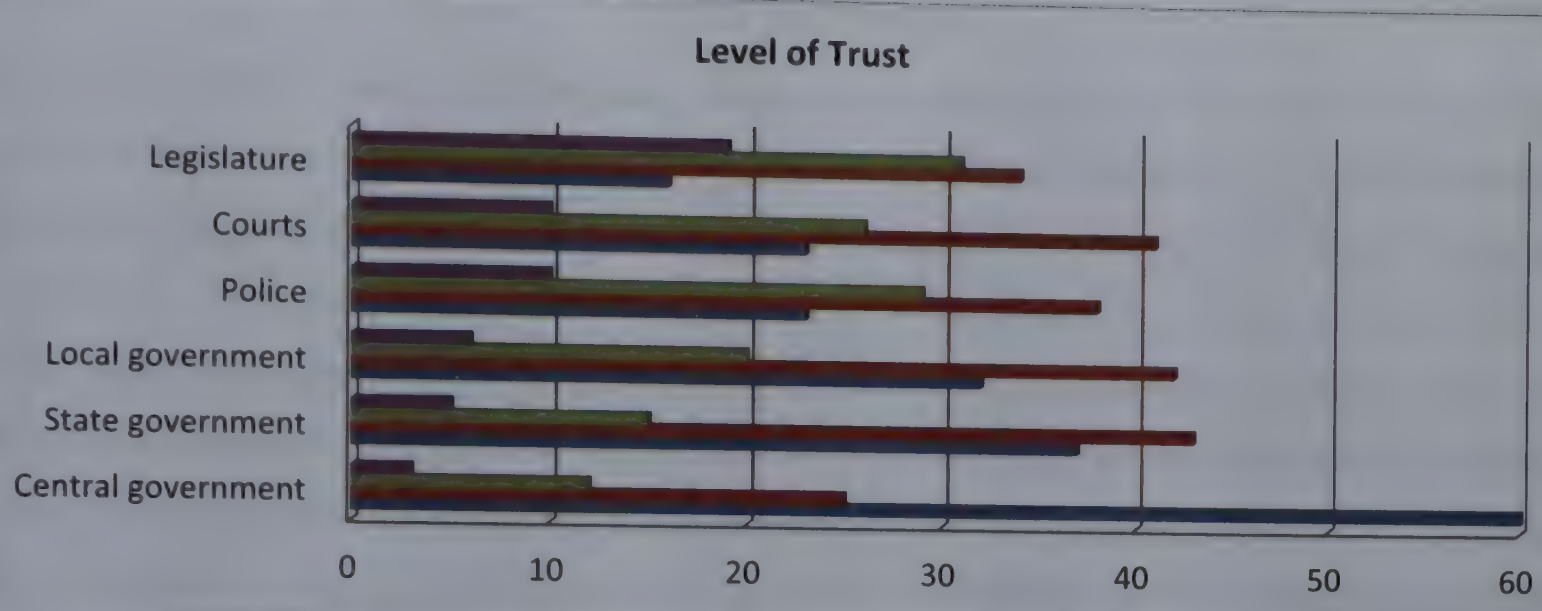
Among the youth who said that the government served the interests of a few, village and town respondents were more likely to identify those select few as the rich. Close to four of every ten at these locations took that stand. In Bengaluru city, two of every ten of the young respondents who identified the beneficiaries of government as a few, felt that the few were the educated sections. This view did not find much support among those in villages, towns and small cities. The belief that the government only served the interests of those in the ruling party was more strongly in urban areas than in the rural parts. Two of every ten youth in Bengaluru felt that the government was there to look after the interests of those who belonged to the ruling party. Here too, the response of young people was a direct mirror image of the world that they say around them. This explains why respondents in villages responded in ways differently from those in cities and metropolitan areas like Bengaluru.

It could be argued that when some youth stated that the rich people benefitted from the government and others said it was those who supported the ruling party, they were possibly referring to the same people but looking at them from different perspectives.

5.3: Trust in government institutions

How much trust did young people in the state have in different government institutions? To tap the level of trust in select institutions, the survey identified six government institutions and sought the response of young people about them. The institutions identified were central government, state government, local government, legislature, judiciary and the police. A menu of four options was offered to the respondent to indicate their level of trust in a specific institution: Great deal, somewhat, not very much and none at all.

Table / Chart 5.8



	Central government	State government	Local government	Police	Courts	Legislature
None At All	3	5	6	10	10	19
Not much	12	15	20	29	26	31
Somewhat	25	43	42	38	41	34
Great Deal	60	37	32	23	23	16

n - 8149

Six of every ten youth interviewed had a great deal of trust in the central government. If those who said that they somewhat trusted the youth were added, the percentage would jump to eighty five. One-third of the youth had a great deal of trust in the state government. If those who said that they somewhat trusted the state government were added to the great deal of trust category, the percentage comes close to what was seen in the case of the central government. Three of every ten respondents had a great deal of faith in the local government. Four of every ten respondents had some faith in the local government, thus implying that three-fourths of the respondents had some trust or a great deal of faith in the local government. Close to one fourth of the respondents had a great deal of faith in the judiciary and four of every ten somewhat trust in the judiciary. Two thirds of the respondents had either a great deal of trust or somewhat trusted the judiciary. The police was trusted to a great deal by close to one fourth of the youth. Another one-third somewhat trusted the police. Brought together, six of every ten youth had a great deal of trust or somewhat trusted the judiciary. At the bottom of the trust ladder was the legislature. Half the young respondents had a great deal of trust or somewhat trusted the

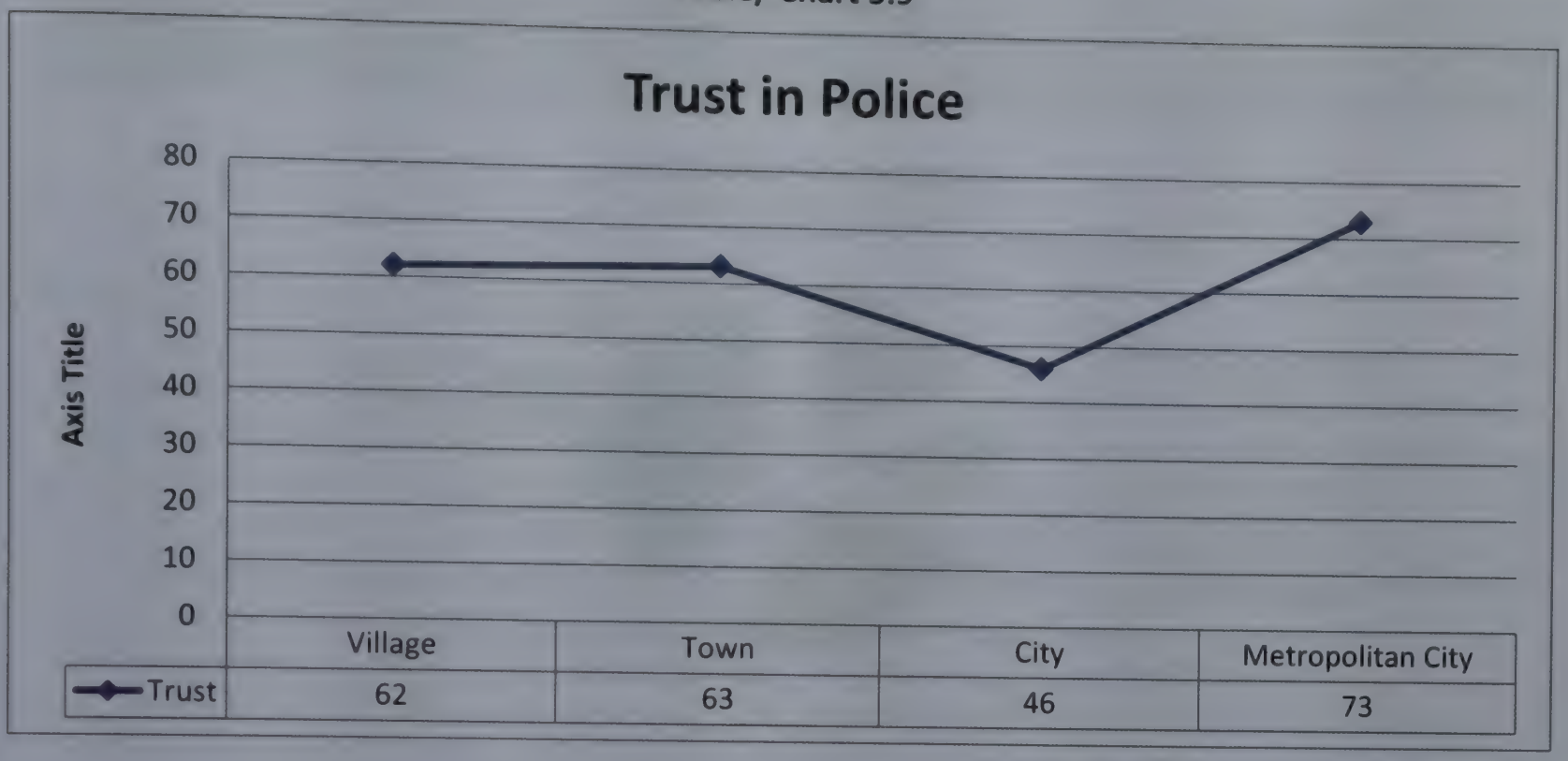
legislature. One third trusted the legislature somewhat and around one-sixth had a great deal of trust in the legislature.

A high level of faith in the central government could be explained in two ways. Firstly, it could be a genuine faith which is a reflection of the work done by that level of government over a period of time. Secondly, the central government could generate a lot of trust on account of its being distanced from the common youth, Youth are viewing this government from a distance and therefore are willing to make a more positive appreciation of it. The lower level of faith in the state government could also be on account of the increased expectations from the state government and its inability to meet those expectations. Proximity of government resulting in a different evaluation is also seen in the case of local government. The police and the legislature battling for the lowest position is again a trend that is not unique to the response of the youth of the state. This perception is held across different segments of society across the country and has been shown by national level studies. The All India study of the youth also placed the national government above the state government in terms of trust and the local government being placed after the state government. The All India study also showed the police in very poor light though the legislature faired marginally better than the police.

Gender and age of the respondent appeared not to make a difference. SES and access to education too did not seem to be a great differentiator.

There was variation in trust for the police across locations of residence. Bengaluru youth tended to have a great deal of trust or somewhat trusted the police, with close to three – fourth expressing the same. In Villages and town, two thirds of young people tended to have a great deal of trust or somewhat trusted the police. Youth in big cities (other than Bengaluru) had a much higher degree of mistrust in the police with a majority of them expressing little or no trust in the police.

Table/ Chart 5.9

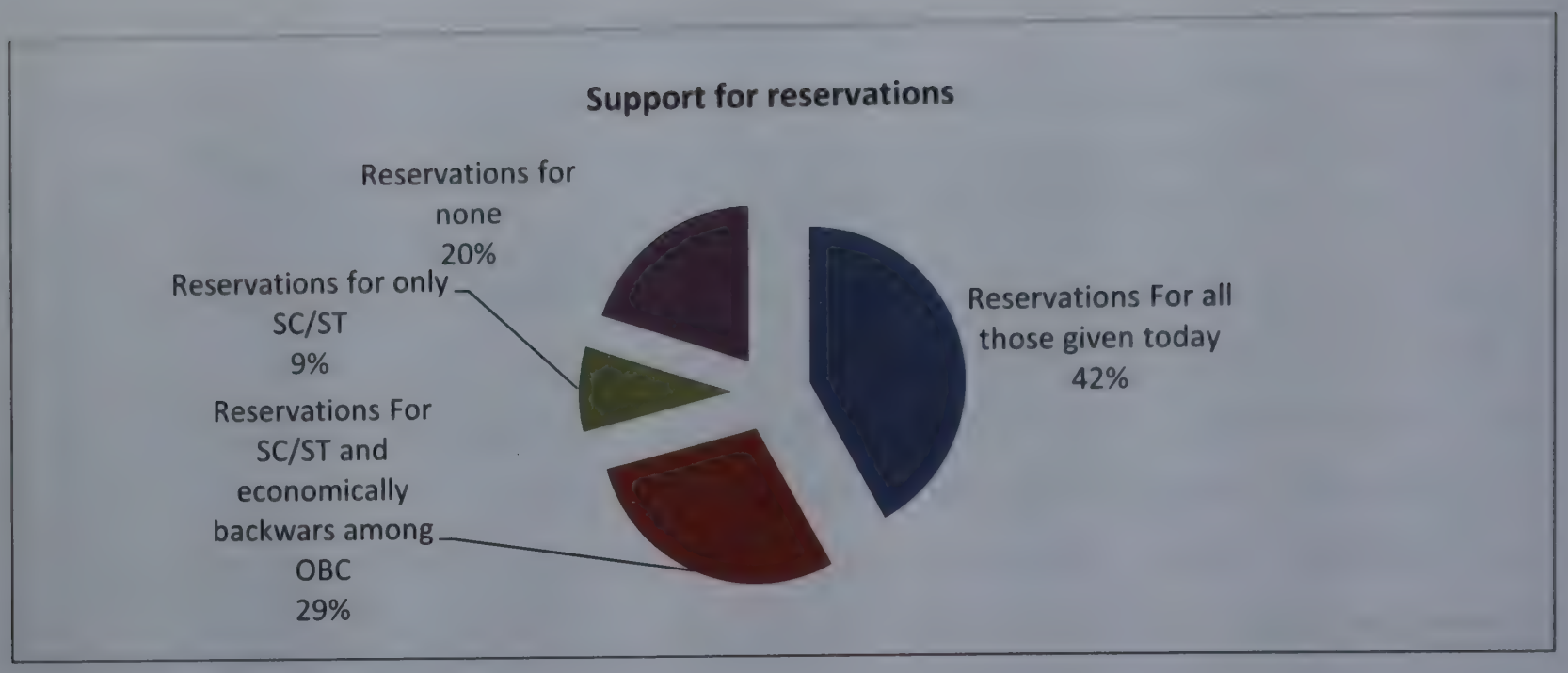


n - 8753

5.4: Youth and Social Justice

How do young people relate to larger concerns of social justice? To understand the mood of young people in this regard, the survey asked a set of questions on reservations in higher education and for professional courses. Four statements were read out to statements and they were asked to choose the statement that best reflects their views. The four statements were: a) Seats should be reserved for SC,ST and OBC communities; b)Seats should be reserved for SC,ST but not for OBC Communities; c) Seats should be reserved for SC,ST but only for economically weaker(Poor) sections of the OBC Communities; and d) There should be no reservation of seats for any community in higher education.

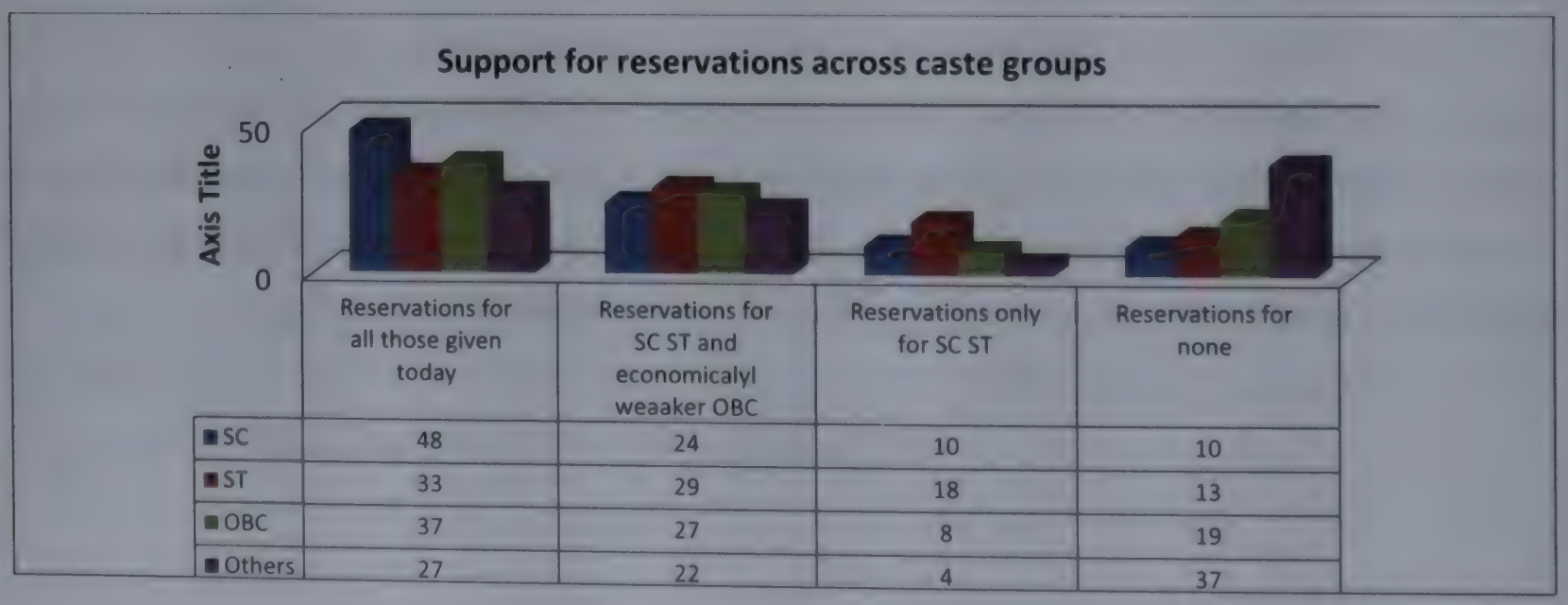
Table/Chart 5.10


Support for reservations
Reservations for none 20%
Reservations for only SC/ST 9%
Reservations For SC/ST and economically backwars among OBC 29%
Reservations For all those given today 42%

n-8197

Over four of every ten youth supported reservations for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs, as they exist today. Another one-fourth supported reservations for SC, ST and the economically weaker among the OBCs. One in every ten respondents favoured reservations exclusively for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Two of every ten young people were against reservations for anyone. This trend is very similar to the response as recorded in the national study of the youth.

Table/Chart 5.11



	Reservations for all those given today	Reservations for SC ST and economicalyl weaaker OBC	Reservations only for SC ST	Reservations for none
SC	48	24	10	10
ST	33	29	18	13
OBC	37	27	8	19
Others	27	22	4	37

n-8197

My first Job

Mr Shanappa, a 28 year old Lecturer in a College .

Coming from a Dalit family, I had experienced what it was to be disadvantaged and deprived of opportunities. Appa was a self-made man. When he grew up the village had a school which was not meant for Scheduled Caste children. He learnt to read and write with the help of a friend who was able to go to school. Appa spent his childhood working in the fields with his elder brother. Avva never had been to school and even today does not know how to read and write. Appa was hard working and soon managed to open a small shop in the village. It was a hard life. We lived in the Dalit colony of the village and his shop was in that colony. Childhood was a difficult experience. By the time I was seven years old, the government had opened a school in our village and I was admitted there. We had a nice teacher who was a busy man and came once in a way. He treated me very well. After school, father took me to the neighbouring town where there was a PUC college. I used to go there every day by bus. I did my degree in that town also. For my post-graduation, Appa sent me to Gulbarga. I stayed in the hostel and studied hard and did well. After my M.A., I applied for a Lecturer's job in many colleges. I was called for interviews, asked many questions which I tried to answer. They asked me many questions about my parents and what they do. I used to wonder why that was important for appointing me as a Lecturer. In every interview they wanted to see my original caste certificate. From my name, you cannot make out my caste. When people ask me my name they often probe further. Now I realize, it is to find out about my caste. A degree college offered me a Lecturer's job and I was happy. I went home and told Appa and Avva about my job. I was the first one among all my close relations to have become a Lecturer. They were happy and blessed me. I was nervous on the first day of work. I dressed up smartly and went to the Principal's office. He spoke to me very nicely. I am lucky that he was my first Principal. He gently cautioned me not to get upset by people's behavior when they get to know that I am a Dalit. I was puzzled ... why should that make a difference. He called my Head of Department and introduced me to him. He looked very strict and stiff. My HOD took me to the Department Staff Room. On the way he casually told me that I was the first person in the Department from the reserved category. I wondered whether it was said as a compliment or a complaint. People spoke to me but maintained a distance. I was like them but I was also different. I saw some people being very patronizing to me and did not like that. As I entered my first class, I was nervous. I had prepared very well. Appa had always told me that whatever job I do, I should do it with full dedication. Students responded to me very positively. I built a good rapport with them. I tried avoiding the staff room as I realized that each time I went there, it went silent. I spent more time in the library and with students in the canteen. I realized my students accepted me for what I am, my colleagues preferred to look at me as who I was. I felt frustrated but was happy that my students treated me with dignity and respect.

(Case Study Being a Dalit CERSSE)

The most likely to disapprove of reservations were the Forward Castes. Close to four of every ten among the forward caste respondents were against reservations for anyone. In the case of the OBC respondents, two in every ten were against reservations of any form. Among the Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe respondents only one of every ten was against reservations of any kind. This trend is indicative of `where I stand depends on where I sit`. Given the fact that the forward castes are not beneficiaries of the policy of reservations the disapproval of the same among those sections may be considered as expected. Yet, even among the forward castes there is support for the existing scheme of reservation though not the extent as displayed by other social groups.

Support for the existing reservation system (SC, ST and OBC reservations) was supported by half the Scheduled Caste respondents, close to four of ten of the OBC respondents, one third of the scheduled tribes and little over one-fourth of the others.

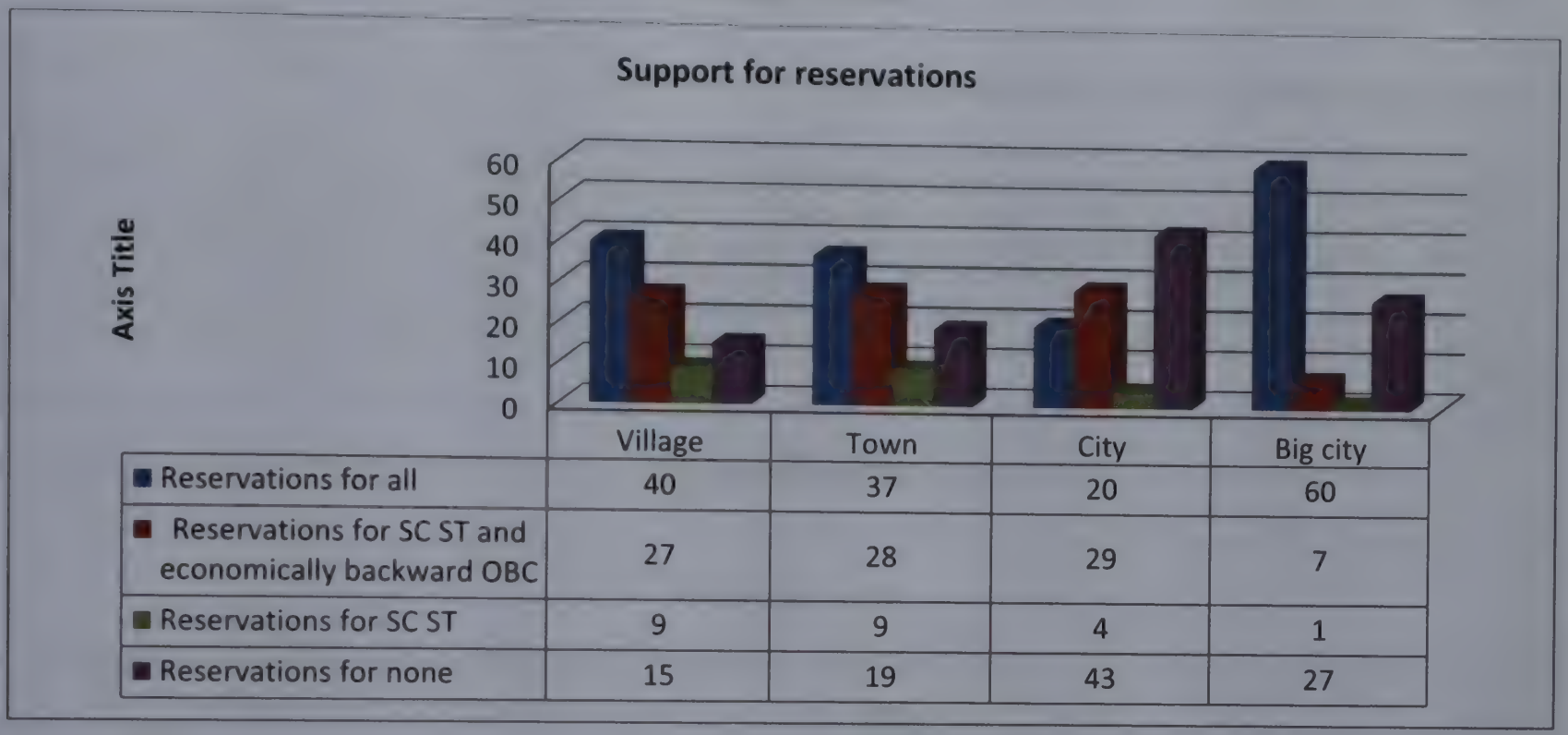
Two of every ten forward caste respondents favoured reservations for the SC's. ST's and economically deprived among the OBCs. One fourth of the Scheduled Caste respondents favoured this. Close to three of every ten scheduled tribe and OBC respondents supported reservations for SC's, ST's and the economically backward among the OBCs.

Only four percent of the forward caste respondents were in favour of reservations only for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. One in every ten among the SC's and OBCs and two in every ten of the ST's supported reservations only for SC's and ST's.

Given the intense debate over reservations in the last few years, the above trend is an assertion of the experience that young people have had in their daily life. Given the fact that the policy of reservations for the backward castes had been in force in Karnataka for several decades, it level of acceptability is

reasonably high. Respondents often take a stand on contentious issues depending on their experience with the same. This is clearly evident in the case of the response of the youth in Karnataka to the policy and practice of reservations.

Table/Chart 5.12



	Village	Town	City	Big city
Reservations for all	40	37	20	60
Reservations for SC ST and economically backward OBC	27	28	29	7
Reservations for SC ST	9	9	4	1
Reservations for none	15	19	43	27

n-8197

If the place of residence of the respondents were to be taken into account, the maximum opposition to reservations was in cities (other than Bengaluru). Close to four of every ten respondents in cities opposed any form of reservation. In Bengaluru, a little over one-fourth of the respondents opposed reservations. In towns, two of every ten opposed all forms of reservations and in villages one sixth of the respondents were against reservations. In Bengaluru city, only seven percent supported this form of reservations.

The current system of reservations (for SC's, ST's and OBCs) was supported by six of ten respondents in Bengaluru city. Four of every ten in the villages and towns favoured it. The lowest level of support for the current system of reservations was in cities (other than Bengaluru) where only two of every ten respondents supported it.

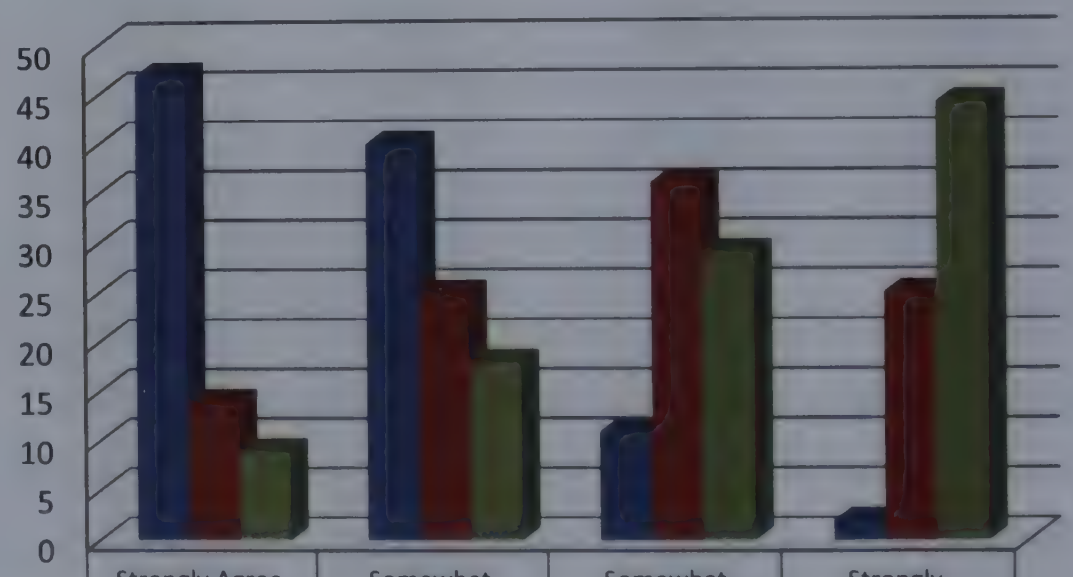
In villages, towns and cities (except Bengaluru) three of every ten respondents favoured reservations only for SC's, ST's and the economically deprived among the OBCs. In Bengaluru, just 7 percent supported the same.

5.5 : Young People and the Expression of Dissent

How did young people in Karnataka respond to questions of expression of dissent in the public domain? Did they believe in the right to public action when they felt things were going wrong? What means did they support? Is the Mahatma's message of non-violence still endorsed by the new generation in the state?

Table/Chart 3.13

Right to dissent



	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly Disagree
Everyone should have the right to express their opinion, even if the majority is of a different opinion	47	40	11	2
People should not be allowed to strike and demonstrate if they endanger public order	14	25	36	25
Conflict exists in every society and can be resolved through violence	9	18	29	44

n - 8171

To tap these issues, three questions were posed: a) Do people have the right to express an opinion even if it is different from that of the majority; b) People do not have the right to strike and demonstrate if it endangers public order and c) Conflict exists in every society and can be resolved through violence.

Close to half the youth strongly endorsed the view that everyone should have the right to express their opinion even if the majority is of a different view. Only one of every ten dissented from this view. Among the youth in Bengaluru city, close to nine of every ten , strongly endorsed this view. Those from the lower SES supported this statement more strongly that those who were from the higher SES. Close to seventeen percent of the High SES and fifteen percent of the middle SES somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed with this view. Young people from the newly empowered social groups and disadvantaged sections seemed to support this view with greater intensity

Approval of strikes and demonstrations even if they disrupted public order was supported by six of every ten youth. While one fourth of young people somewhat agreed with the view that one should not demonstrate or strike if it disrupted public order, close to fourteen percent strongly endorsed this view. There was a clear division among the youth when it came to endorsing or rejecting this statement. Young people in villages and small towns, those from the low and very low SES and the Dalit and Tribal youth did not support abstaining from strikes and demonstrations even it disrupted public order. On the other hand, young people in Bengaluru city and in other cities, those from the Forward Castes and Other Backward Castes and those from the High and Middle SES strongly supported keeping away from strikes and demonstrations in the interests of public order. It is clear that the disadvantaged sections favoured recourse to stronger means of expressing dissent as the only means of gaining justice.

It is also important to record that close to three fourths of young people endorsed the stand that recourse to violence was not the means of resolving conflicts in society. This stand was unequivocally endorsed by young people in Bengaluru city and those in other cities, those from the Forward Castes and other Backward Castes and the middle and high SES. Among the more socially and economically

deprived sections of society there was a growing view that violence was inevitable to resolve conflicts in society. Here again this could be a clear frustration of the young people with the way the system functions and their lack of faith in its capacities to deliver them justice.

This chapter highlighted the response of the youth in Karnataka to critical issues of politics, governance and development. Their stand is very clearly articulated in their responses, reactions and reflections on the polity and society as they see around them. The fact of political equality and the reality of `social inequality, is clearly mirrored in the views of the youth in the state.

Chapter 6

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: VISION & EXPECTATION

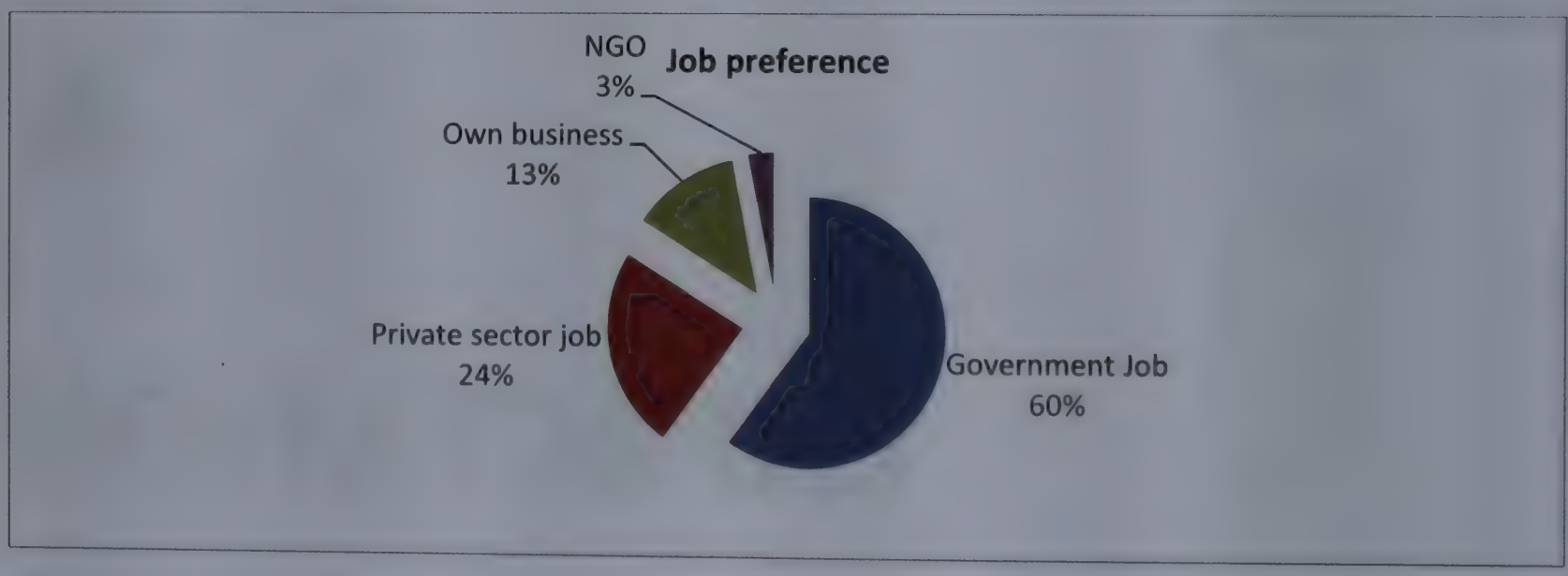
A majority of young people in Karnataka continue to aspire for government jobs.

What is the vision and aspiration of the younger generation in Karnataka with regard to employment opportunities. A range of questions tapped the response of young people in the state on this important issue.

6.1: What do youth seek in a job?

The youth of today would be central to the work force of tomorrow. Many of the youth in their 20s and early 30s would already be employed and those still in their teens or pursuing higher education would have a vision of the type of work they would like to get involved in. The survey asked a battery of questions to get a feel of the nature of employment opportunities young people in the State were looking for.

Table 6.1

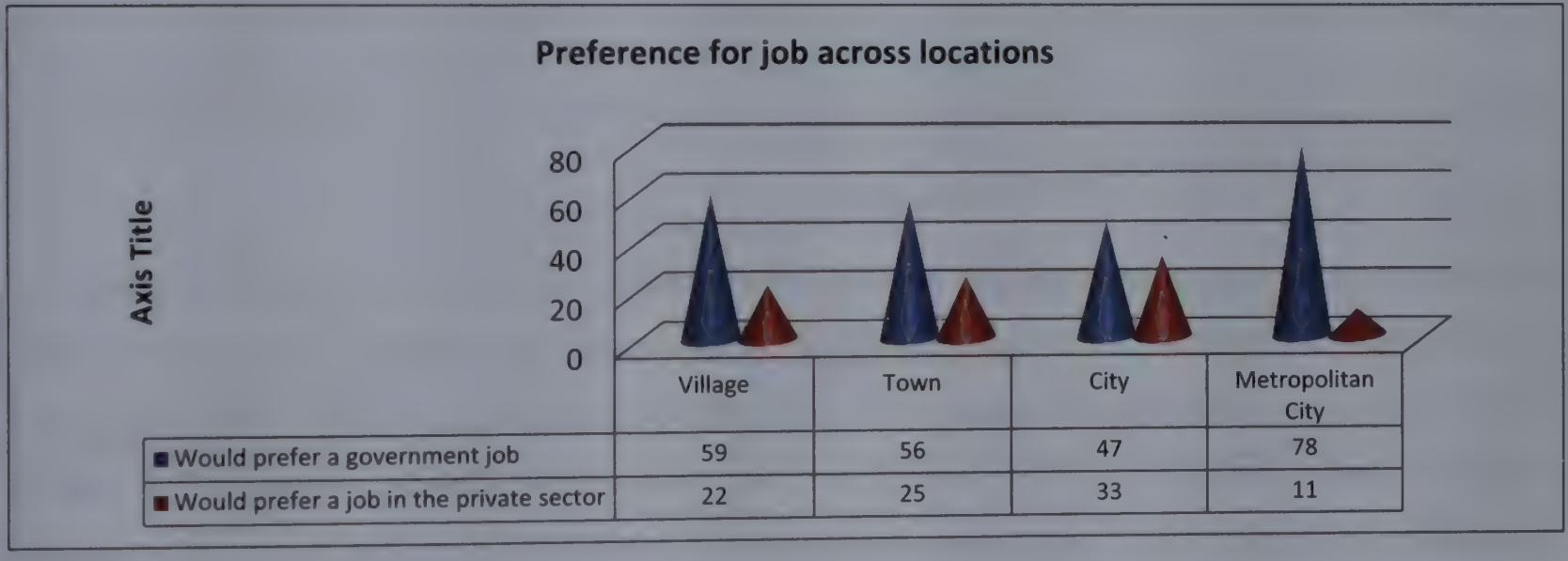


n - 8509

In an age of liberalization, privatization and globalization, do young people still dream of a government job. Six out of every ten youth preferred a government job. Close to one fourth wanted to work in the private sector. One out of ten dreamt of starting their own business. A very small percentage wanted to

work for NGOs. There is a popular belief that the attraction of a government job is something that is more frequently expressed in villages and small towns and not in big cities. The survey findings prove otherwise. Close to eight of every ten young people interviewed in Bengaluru favoured a government job. In the villages, close to six of every ten youth interviewed, preferred working for the government. In towns and small cities the attraction of a government job was much less than villages and Bengaluru city. Again, among those opting for private job, the likelihood of their being youth in the towns and small cities was much higher than those in villages and in Bengaluru city. Only one of every ten in Bengaluru and two of every ten in rural Karnataka opted for a private job. In cities across the state, close to one-thirds of the respondents opted for a private job and in towns one-fourth of the respondents preferred private jobs. There was not much variation across regions among those who hoped to start their own business.

Table/Chart 6.2



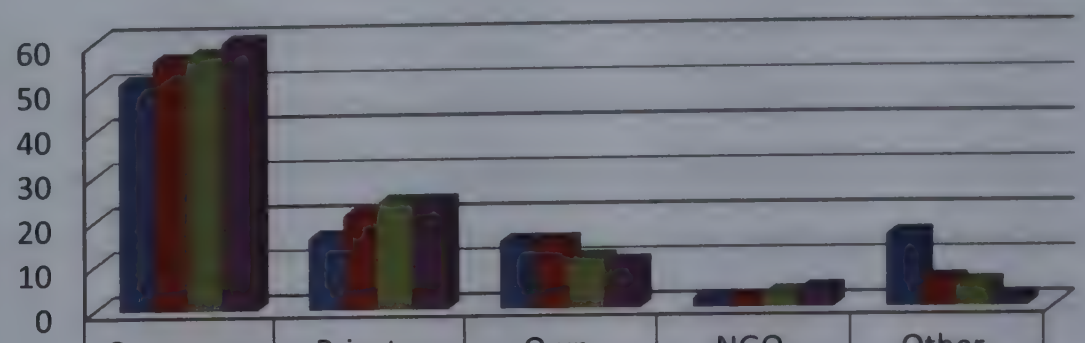
	Village	Town	City	Metropolitan City
Would prefer a government job	59	56	47	78
Would prefer a job in the private sector	22	25	33	11

n- 8509

Did the education level of the respondent impact on their preference for government or private job? The aspiration to work in/for government tended to increase with better access to education among the youth. Those who limited access to education/ did not pursue their education were more likely to be among those who preferred to start/work in their own business.

Table/Chart 6.3

Job Preference : Respondents Educational Level



	Government jobs	Private jobs	Own Business	NGO sector	Other
Illiterate	51	16	15	2	16
Upto Middle	56	21	15	2	6
Middle Pass - Upto Matric	57	24	11	3	5
Above Matric	60	24	10	4	2

n - 8500

Did the preference for a government job depend on whether the respondent was already employed or still a student? It is noticed that a higher percentage of those who were students (close to two thirds), preferred a government job as compared to those already employed (just over half). Those who favoured starting their own business were more likely to be those already employed. The highest support for working with NGO's was among homemakers. It could well be possible that many among the homemakers were likely to be involved with NGOs in their areas.

Age appeared to make a difference in the aspiration for a government job. The younger the respondents, the more likely they were to aspire for government jobs. There was not much of a variation across age groups for private jobs. The vote for working in your own business found favour more with the older than among the youth. This trend is in consonance with what was stated earlier with regard to the differences between those employed and studying.

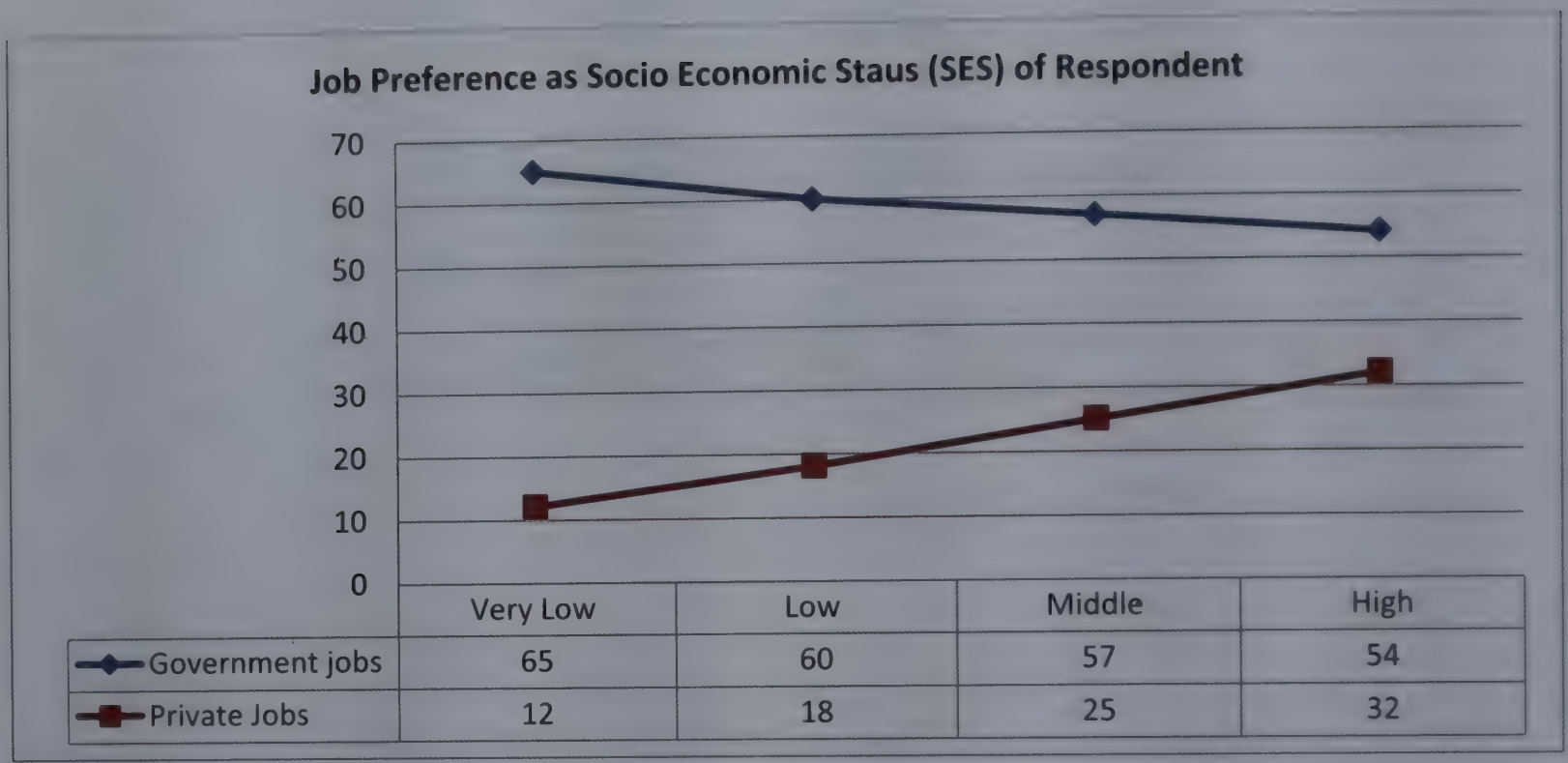
Table/Chart 6.4

	13 - 19	20 - 24	25- 30	31- 34
Government jobs	63	60	57	53
Own business	8	9	14	15

n - 8490

What was the impact of the Socio-Economic Status (SES) of the youth on their preference for a government job. Very clearly, an improvement in the SES results in a reduced inclination for a government job and a greater preference to work in the private sector.

Table/Chart 6.5



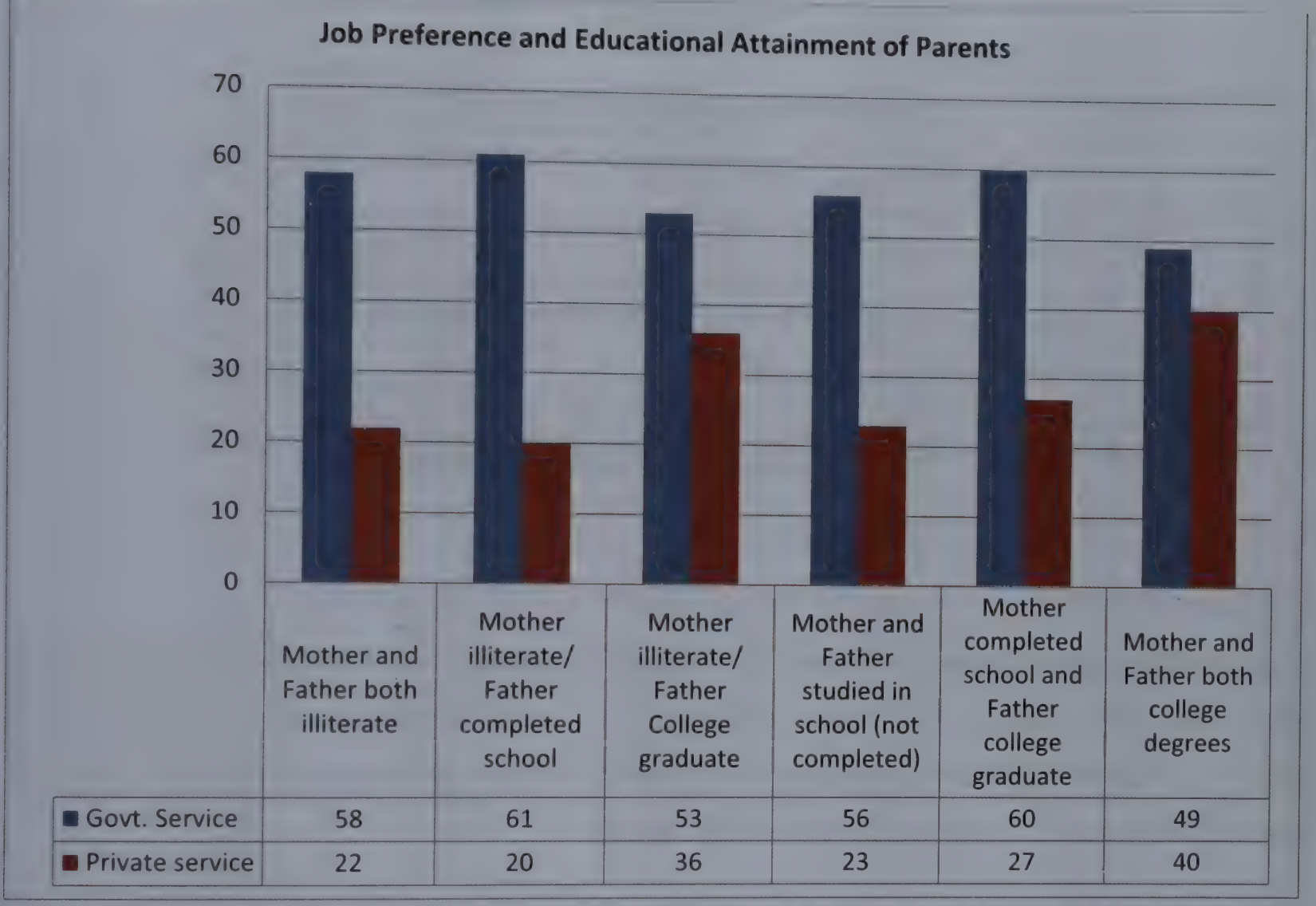
	Very Low	Low	Middle	High
Government jobs	65	60	57	54
Private Jobs	12	18	25	32

n - 8479

Did the level of the education of the parent make a difference? If the father's educational level, was to be taken into account, the preference for a government job did not vary significantly. Among those youth whose fathers had completed their matriculation and beyond, a private job seemed more appealing. If the mother's educational attainment was taken into account, there was a sharp rise in the preference for private jobs among those young people whose mothers had completed their matriculation. Given the fact that mother and father may have different levels of educational attainment and this fact may influence the nature of socialization at home and the career preferences that got crystallized among young people, the response of youth on job preference was analysed keeping in mind different combinations of educational levels of the parents. A few trends were clearly discernible. If both parents were college degree holders, government jobs were less attractive and

private sector employment opportunities had a greater charm. The fact that the father was a degree holder did sway a lot of young people towards the private sector.

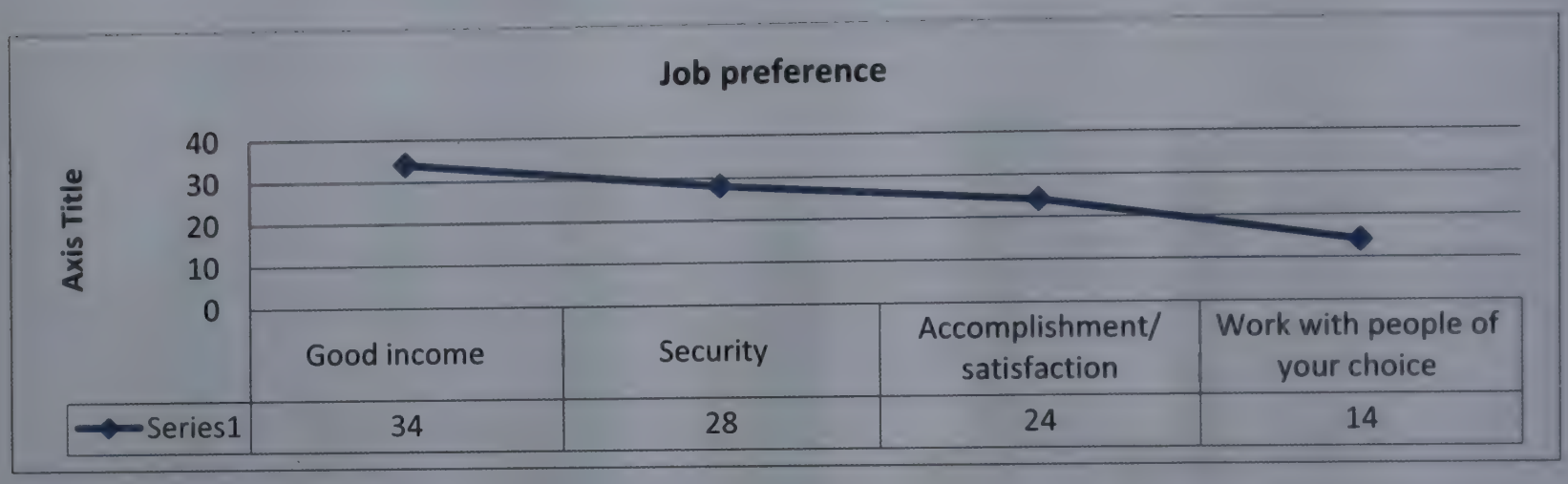
Table/Chart 6.6



Thus, two factors (which could be linked) seem to clearly stand out. The higher the SES of the youth, the less likely they were to be enamoured of government jobs and the more likely that the private sector would be their preference. The father's educational attainment seemed to have some influence in young people being attracted to private jobs. If the mother was a graduate herself, the desire to seek a job in the private sector was more intense.

Various factors influence people when they choose a job. What factors motivate young people in Karnataka in their choice of jobs. The focus was not so much on the job per se but on the environment in which one works. Respondents were given four options to choose from: job with a good income; job with security even if it means lesser salary; job with an opportunity to work with people of your choice; and job that gives you a feeling of accomplishment/ satisfaction.

Table/ Chart 6.7



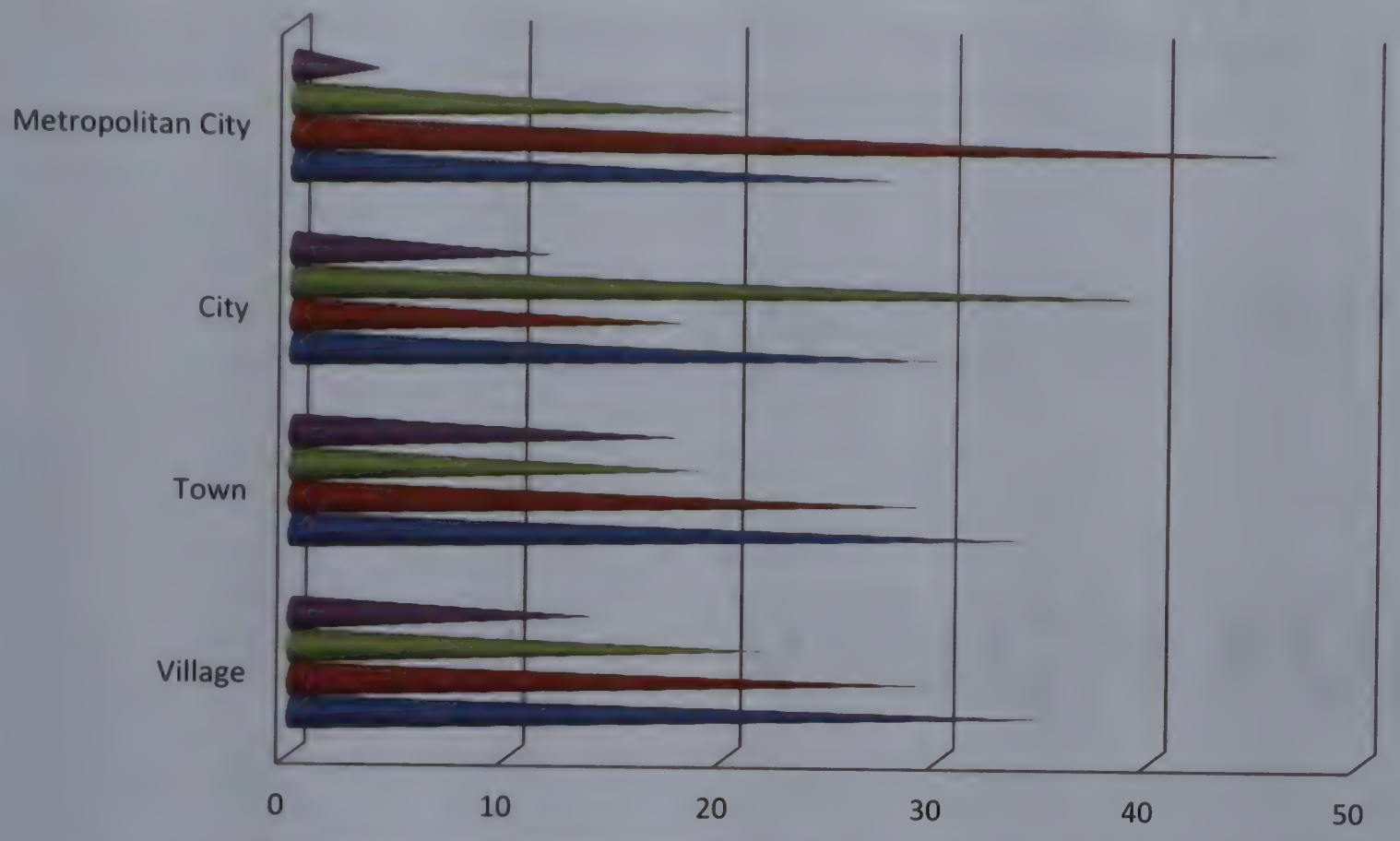
n – 8491

One- third of the young respondents opted for a job with a good income. Another one-fourth preferred a job which offered security even if it involved a lesser financial compensation. Close to one-fourth favoured a job that was satisfying and gave them a feeling of accomplishment. The remaining opted for jobs that allowed one to work with people of their choice.

Across locations, youth in Bengaluru were less likely to choose a job with a good income as compared to those in villages, towns and small cities. Close to half the respondents in Bengaluru city opted for a stable job even if it involved a compromise on how much one earned. In cities other than Bengaluru, the desire for a secure job was much less than at other locations. Four of every ten respondents in cities other than Bengaluru preferred a job that allowed for accomplishment and was satisfying.

Table / Chart 6.8

Job Preference: Variation based on place of residence



	Village	Town	City	Metropolitan City
People of your choice	14	18	12	4
Accomplishment	22	19	40	21
Security	29	29	18	47
Good Income	35	34	30	28

n - 8491

When young people were asked whether they would like to settle outside Karnataka if they had an opportunity, more than three fourths responded in the negative. This is in consonance with the general approach of Kannadigas that they are more comfortable remaining within their state than venturing out to other parts of the country.

A majority of young people in Karnataka continue to aspire for government jobs. A reasonable income and job security are top priority when it comes to make job choices. One could bridge a connection

between the two aspirations. Youth seek a government job in view of the security it offers. Given the revised pay-scales, youth may also find government jobs more attractive from this perspective too. The cynic could always argue that there is also a link between preference for government jobs and desire for a job that provides a reasonable income on account of the perception that government jobs have great scope for sourcing extra-constitutional means of earning wealth.

Chapter 7

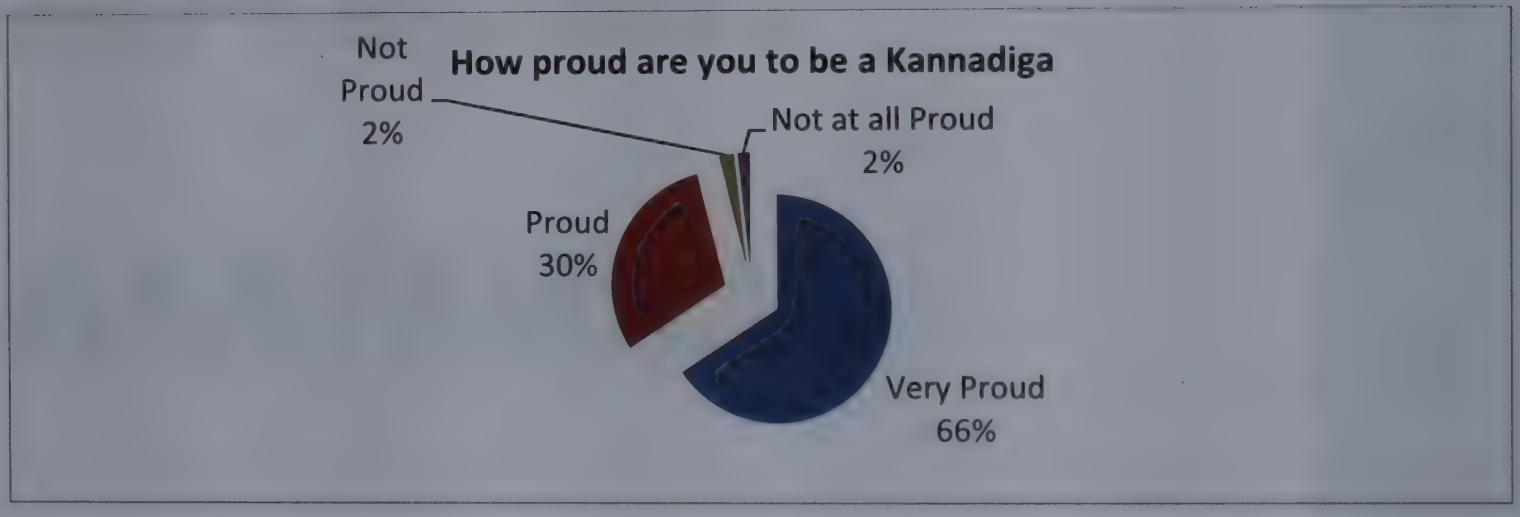
A NEW GENERATION'S VISION FOR KARNATAKA

Youth voiced the flavor of their region while expressing the concerns of the common people in that area. Their understanding of ground reality was evident in the manner they showcased what was specific and peculiar to their area. The common demands of interrupted power supply, availability of potable drinking water and usable roads were effectively articulated by the youth.

As this was an exclusive survey undertaken to understand the aims and aspirations, hopes and challenges of the youth in Karnataka, it would be relevant to highlight some of the views expressed about their state and their immediate environment.

It was heartening to note that two thirds of the young people were very proud to call themselves Kannadigas. Another three of every ten were proud to say that they were Kannadigas. Over ninety four percent of the young respondents in the state were proud of the Kannadiga identity. It must be stressed that even those who did not speak Kannada as their mother tongue or had come into the state from outside, asserted their Kannadiga identity. This reflects the mood on this emotional issue among young people and is a positive sign of integration among the young people in the state.

Chart 7.1



n-8829

There was another question in the survey which asked young people in the state whether they were proud to be an Indian. Here too, over nine of every ten respondents said that they were proud to be an Indian. More than ninety-six percent of the respondents said that they were proud to be an Indian and Kannadiga. Just two percent said that they were proud to be Indian but not a Kannadiga. One percent said that they were proud to be Kannadiga but not Indian. Clearly, an overwhelmingly large percentage of young people in the state were proud of their Indian and Kannadiga identity and did not see them working at cross purposes.

An Indian and a Kannadiga

Master Tarun (name changed) Aged 16, a student in an International school in Bengaluru

I am proud to be an Indian as India is now the fourth largest economy and the second largest country in terms of population. Also, India has one of the world's largest armed forces. Our economy is growing very fast and the nation is poised to become a super power by the year 2050. These figures make me proud to be an Indian. The most amazing fact about India is that we today are the world's largest democracy and all other western countries look up to India and take us as an example of the largest democracy.

Sikhism, Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism, all originated in India and in no other country have four major religions originated. Also, india has the privilege of having people of all the major religions of the world in its population. In no other country are people of all the major religions living together peacefully like they are living in India. This fact makes me very proud and privileged to be an Indian today. This strongly supports India's motto Unity in Diversity.

The one particular time I was really proud to be an Indian was at a conference abroad. An American came up to me and said "India's need to teach the people in the west the art of living with a diverse population as no other country has achieved this other than India"

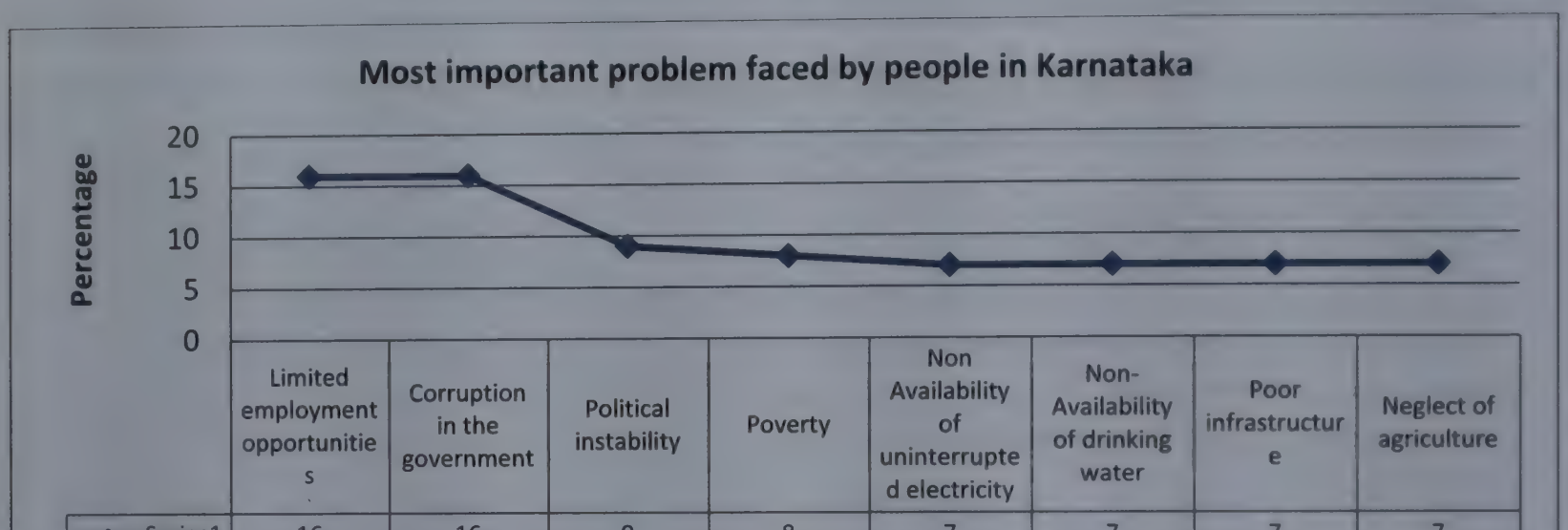
I recognize myself as an Indian but I also am proud of the fact that I am a Kannadiga. My mother tongue Kannada is one of the oldest languages in India. Karnataka has a very rich and colorful history right from the times of Krishna Devaraya to the age of the Mysore Maharajas. Karnataka is also one of India's most advanced statesin terms of technology with Bangalore being the IT capital of India. I see no conflict between my identity as a Kannadiga and Indian. My Kannadiga identity seamlessly transits into my Indian identity.

(From Case Study An Indian and a Kannadiga CERSSE)

7.1: Problems faced by people in the State

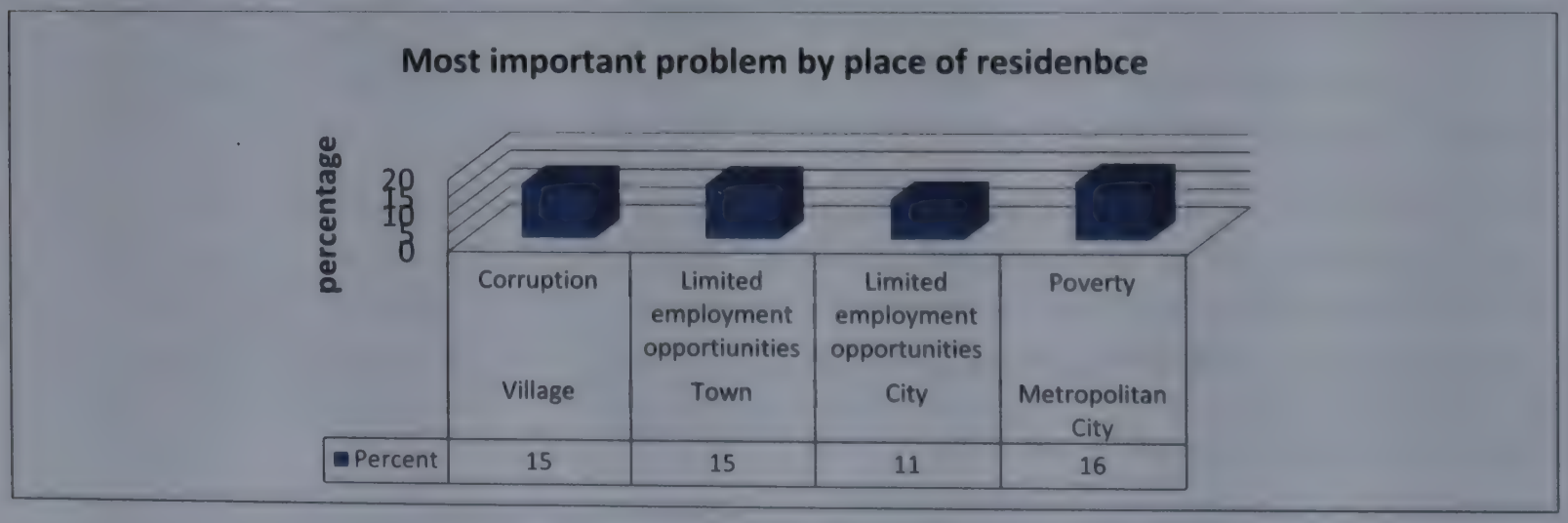
We asked young people what they thought was the biggest problem that people faced in the state. This was an open ended question and the response of those interviewed was recorded exactly and then coded and classified.

Table/ Chart 7.2



n-8310

Table/ Chart 7.3

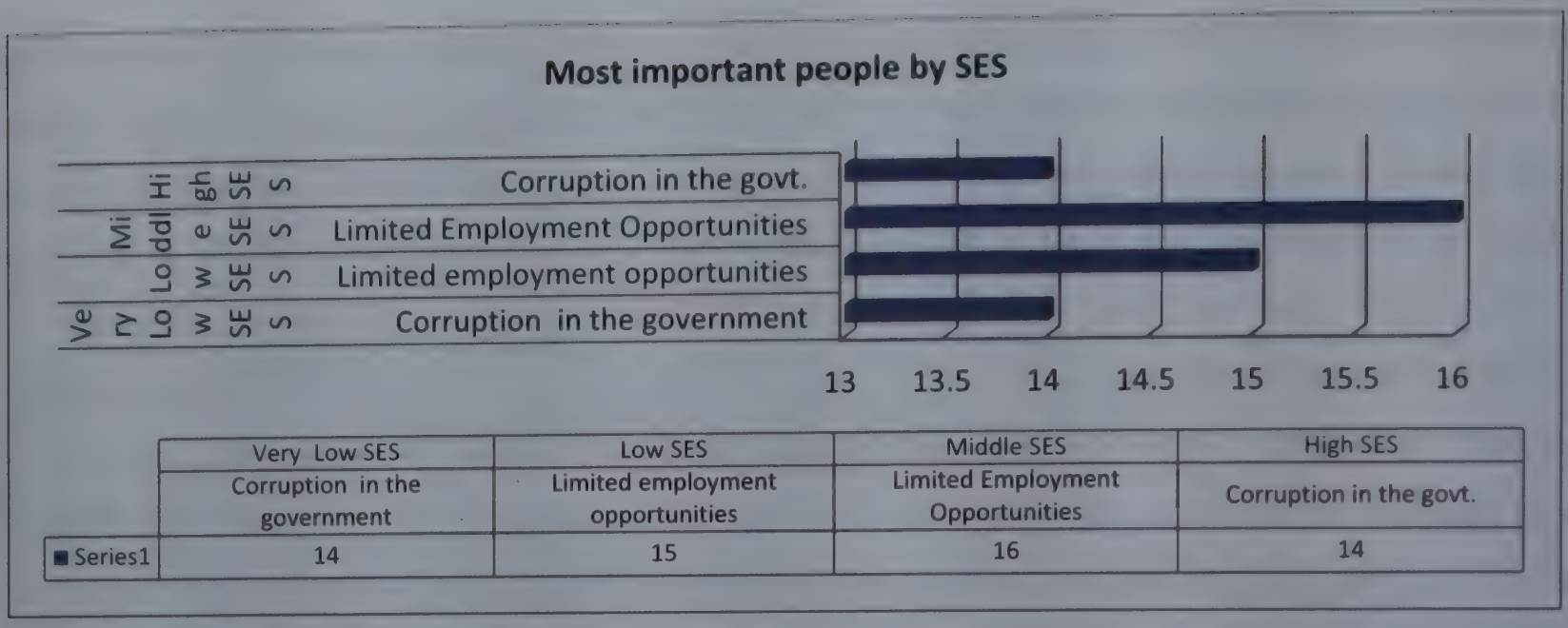


n-8310

The two problems mentioned most often by young people was the limited employment opportunities and the corruption in government. Each of these challenges was mentioned by one sixth of the respondents. Taken together one-third of the respondents mentioned these two problems. Concern about the employment opportunities among youth people is often a legitimate challenge as many of them are often worried about their own future professional prospects. The frequent reference to corruption in government reflects the attitude of young people towards power and authority and more importantly its misuse. One of every ten respondents mentioned political instability as the problem that was prevalent in the state. Young people may have been responding to the developments in the real world of politics in Karnataka and highlighting this fact. Close to eight of every ten also mentioned poverty as the main issue facing people of the state. Two of every ten respondents mentioned non-availability of uninterrupted electricity, drinking water and poor infrastructure as the biggest problem faced by people in the state. Another seven percent bemoaned the neglect of agriculture. The other problems that were mentioned by young respondents included ineffectiveness of the state government, poor health care, poor educational facilities, and a government that was not sensitive to people's needs. The unhappiness among the youth on the levels of corruption and their frustration with the limited opportunities for employment are clear indicators of the mood of young people and their expectations from the system.

There were significant variations in what was highlighted as the most important problem at different locations. In villages, young respondents gave the maximum emphasis on corruption as one of the biggest problems in the state. In towns and cities (other than Bengaluru), limited employment opportunities was stressed as the most important problem. In Bengaluru, poverty was mentioned as the most serious challenge facing the people in the state. Another one in every ten in Bengaluru felt that price rise was a major problem. In towns, young respondents also highlighted corruption as a serious challenge.

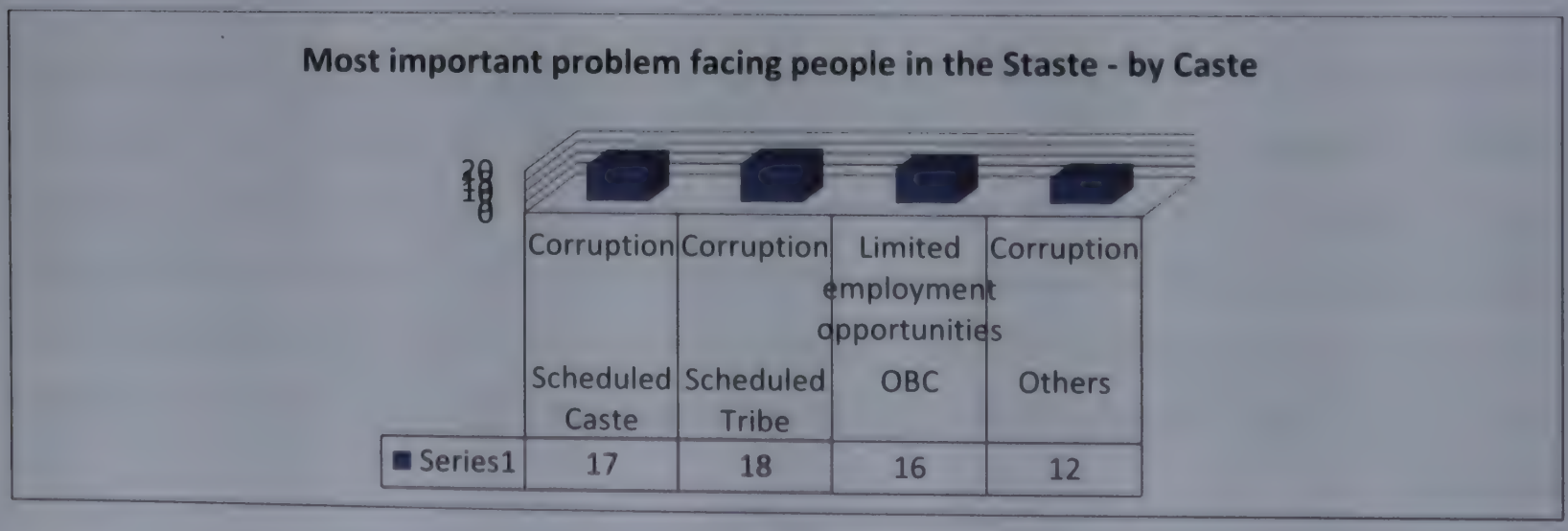
Table/Chart 7.4



n-8310

If the SES of the young respondents were to be taken into account, those in the very low SES and High SES range, identified corruption as the most serious problem. The trend among young people from low SES and middle SES was similar. Both highlighted limited employment opportunities as the most serious problem facing people in the state.

Table/Chart 7.5



n-8310

When the social background of the young people is kept in mind, all save the OBC felt that corruption was the most serious problem. For the OBC respondents, the most serious problem was the limited employment opportunities. Corruption came at second place for OBC respondents. Limited employment opportunities, was highlighted by only one among every ten of those from the Upper castes.

On the question of the most important problem facing the people in the state, young people in Karnataka responded to this question with their immediate surroundings and their very own life experience in mind. Given the frequent moments of encounter with the state, many young people highlighted the cancer of corruption. Given the hopes and aspirations they nurtured for the future, quite a few were concerned about the limited employment opportunities and wondered whether their full potential would be allowed to blossom. Having experienced poverty or witnessed it in the neighbourhood, young people also mentioned poverty as the biggest challenge. The youth very effectively mirrored popular concerns and challenges when voicing their opinion on what was the most important problem facing people in the state.

7.2: Awareness about Government Programmes

What is the level of awareness among young people about key government programmes? How many of them/ or their families actually benefit from these programmes? A survey of this nature could ask only a limited set of questions on government schemes and their effect on common people. As part of the survey, respondents were asked about three important government schemes that were carefully selected. The three were: a) Bhgayalakshmi scheme; b) Sandhya Yojane and c) Aarogya Kavacha. They were asked two questions, one whether they had heard about the scheme and secondly whether they or their family members had benefitted from the same.

13996

Eighty percent of the respondents had heard about the Bhagyalakshmi scheme. Young people seemed to be more aware of the scheme as compared to those in villages. The least awareness about the scheme was in the big cities and Bengaluru. Among those who had heard of the scheme, one fourth stated that they or their families had benefitted from the same. Here again, the beneficiaries were in larger numbers in the small towns. Very few in the cities and Bengaluru had benefitted from the scheme. The benefit seemed to have been evenly spread across different Socio-economic groups (SES). The Forward Castes were the ones to report having benefitted from the scheme the least.

Three fourths of the respondents had heard of the Arogya Kavacha scheme. Those In small towns and cities seem to have heard of it more than those living in villages and Bengauru. The Lower SES and Middle Class had heard of the scheme more than the Very Low and High among the SES. Among those who had heard about the scheme, two of every ten had benefitted from the same or their family had benefited from it. The beneficiaries were significantly larger in the small towns and cities and least in Bengaluru.

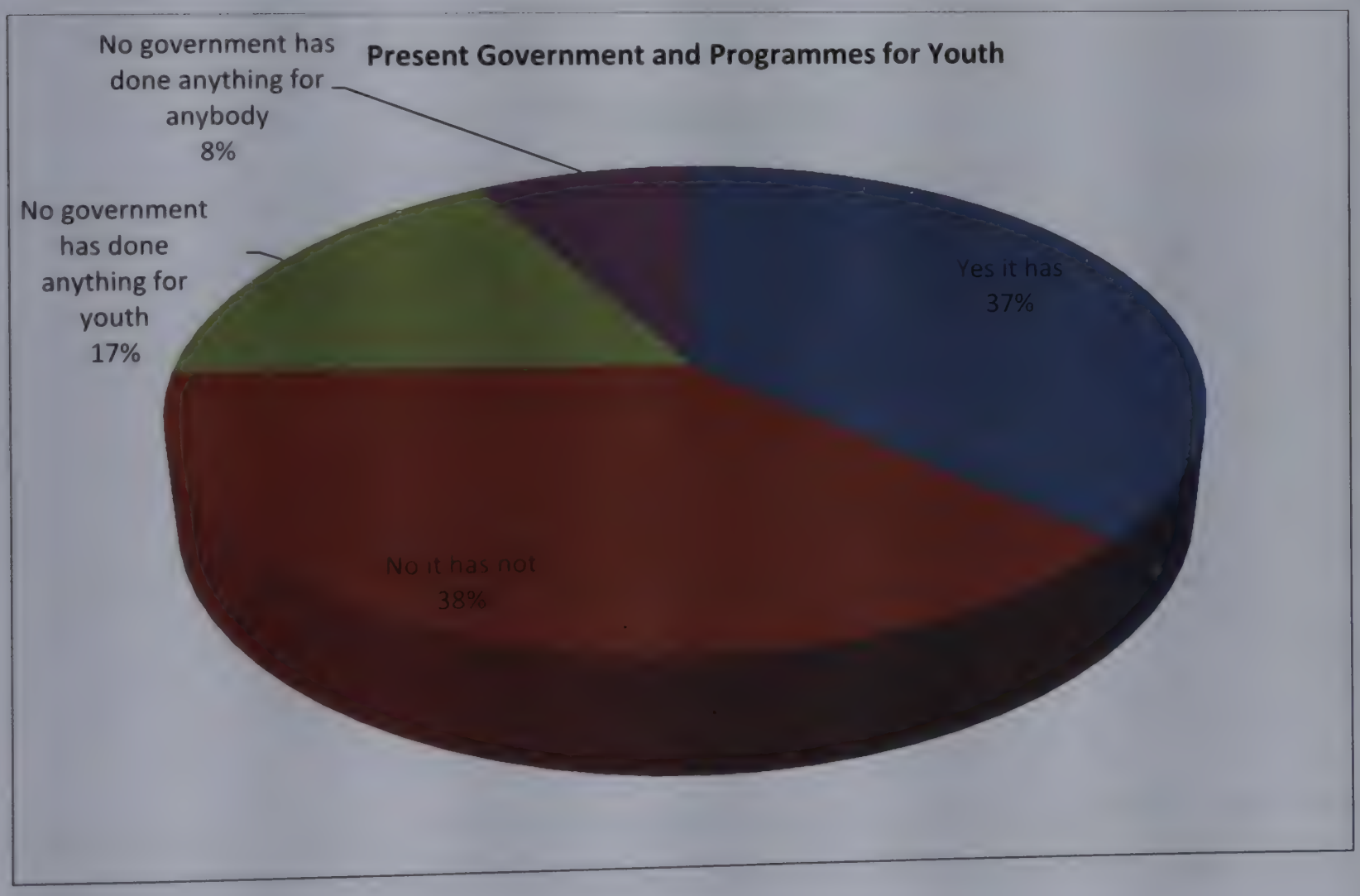
Two thirds of the respondents had heard about the Sandhya Yojane. Here too those in the small towns head heard about the scheme more than others. Those among the Low and Middle SES seemed to be more aware of the scheme than the Very Low and High SES. Among those who had heard about the scheme, two of every ten had directly benefitted from the scheme or someone from the family had gained from this scheme. The beneficiaries were mostly in the villages and small towns. Dalit and Tribal youth and their families seem to have benefitted more from the scheme than those in the OBCs and Forward castes.

It is clear that the level of awareness about the three schemes is reasonably high. The number of those whose families have benefitted from the same continue to be limited. The penetration of the schemes seems to be uneven with more in small towns benefitting from it as compared those in the villages. As expected, those in Bengaluru city were those who benefitted the least from the schemes. This could be

explained in terms of the socio-economic profile of those in the city and the fact that these schemes are not targeted at those sections.

A linked question which was posed was whether young people felt that the present state government had initiated programmes for the welfare of the youth. Young people appeared equally divided in their stands with a little over one-third saying that the present government had initiated programmes for the youth which more or less a similar manner responding in the negative. Close to two of every ten took the stand that no government had done anything specifically for the youth and close to one in every ten felt that no government had initiated programmes keeping in mind the welfare of anyone. Thus there appears to be a general belief among young people that more could be done by the government for the youth of the state.

Chart/Table 7.6

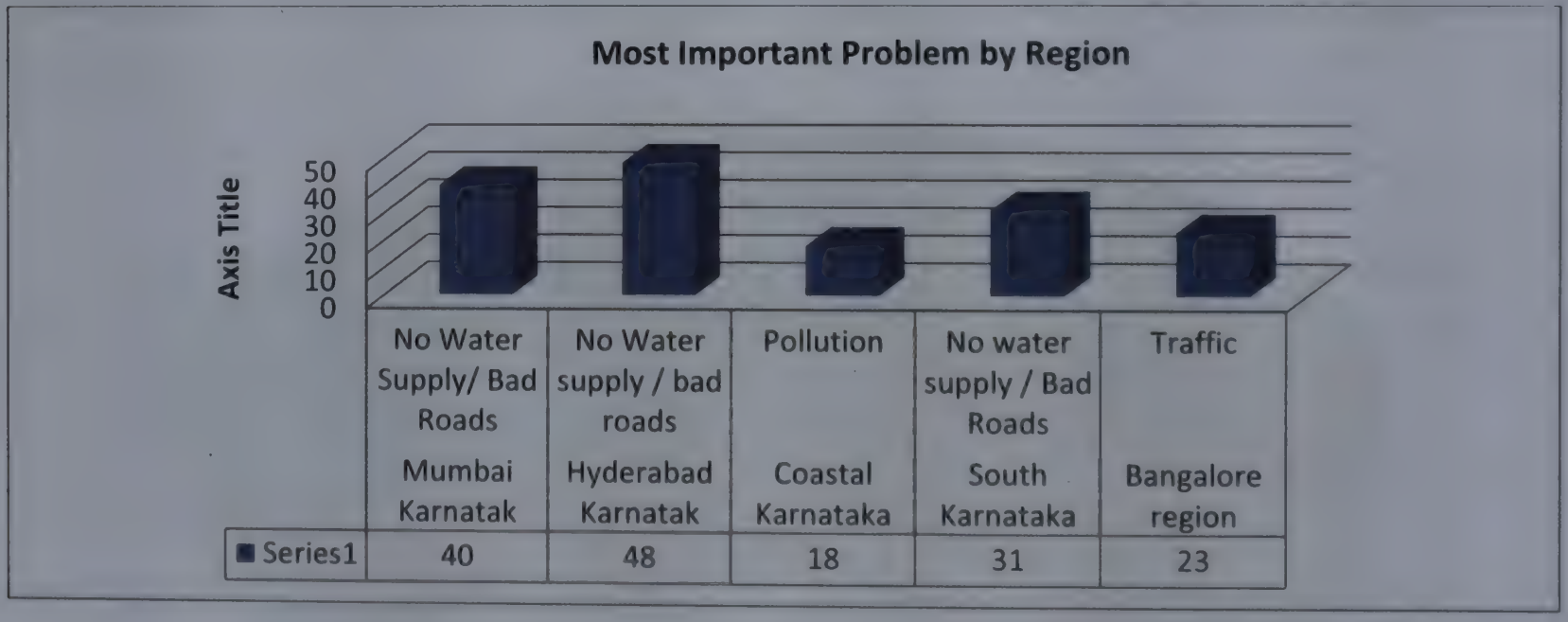

Present Government and Programmes for Youth
No government has done anything for anybody 8%
No government has done anything for youth 17%
Yes it has 37%
No it has not 38%

n – 7315

7.3 : Problems within Regions

For the purpose of analysis Karnataka, is viewed from the lense of six distinct regions: a) Hyderabad-Karnatak region (which was part of the Kingdom of the Nizam of Hyderabad); b) Mumbai-Karnatak region (what was part of the Bombay presidency of the British); c) Coastal Karnataka; d) Central Karnataka; e) South Karnataka (erstwhile Princely state of Mysore save the Bengaluru region) and f) Bengaluru (city and rural). It has often been asserted, that the challenges faced by the people in each of these regions, is vastly different. The survey specifically asked respondents about the problems that people in their region faced (they were told the name of the region that they lived in).

Table/Chart 7.7



n-8597

In the Hyderabad Karnatak and Mumbai Karnatak regions, the most serious problem that the people in the region faced was identified as irregular water supply and poor condition of roads. In Hyderabad-Karnatak region, close to half the young respondents mentioned this as the most serious problem. In Mumbai-Karnatak close to four of every ten respondents identified the most serious problem faced in

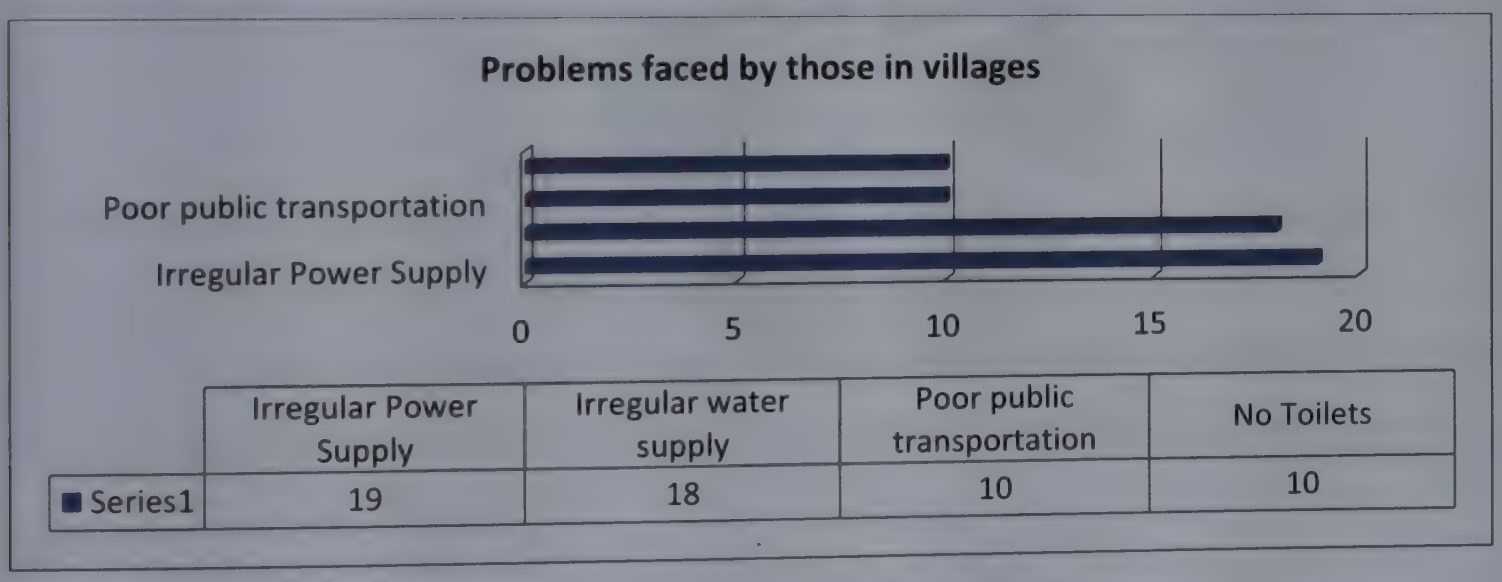
the region as the above. One third of the respondents in South Karnataka too identified bad condition of roads and irregular water supply as the main problem of the region. In Bengaluru, close to one-fourth of the young respondents spoke of traffic congestion as the most serious challenge in the region. In coastal Karnataka close to two in every ten respondents felt that pollution was the biggest problem.

In Mumbai Karnatak, Hyderabad Karnatak and South Karnataka, two of every ten respondents felt that irregular power supply was the most serious problem. In Coastal Karnataka, seven percent of the respondents identified Naxalism as the most serious problem in the region.

Youth voiced the flavor of their region while voicing the concerns of the people in that area. Their understanding of ground reality was evident in the manner they showcased what was specific and peculiar to their area. The common demands of interrupted power supply, availability of potable drinking water and usable roads were effectively articulated by the youth.

7.4 : Challenges in Urban and Rural Areas

Table/ Chart 7.8



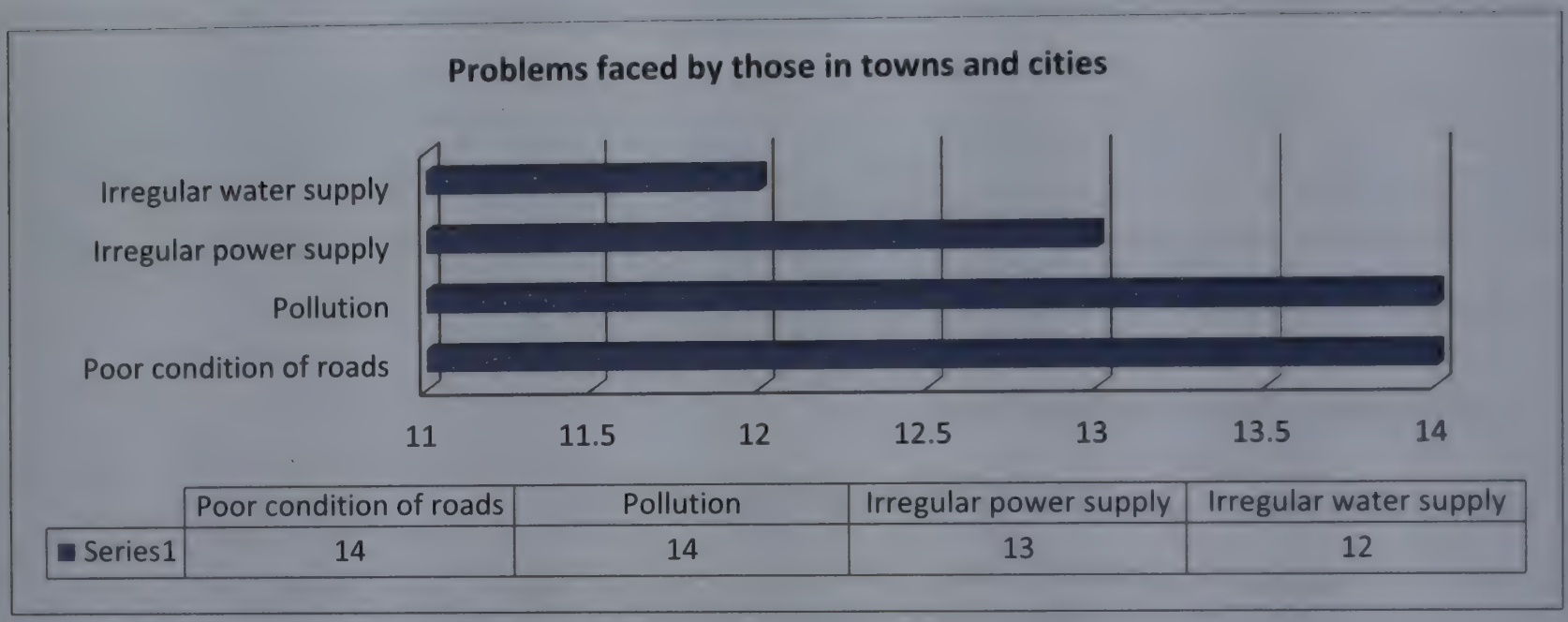
	Irregular Power Supply	Irregular water supply	Poor public transportation	No Toilets
Series1	19	18	10	10

n-5945

Depending on whether the respondents resided in an urban or rural area, they were asked to identify the main problem they faced in their area (urban or rural). There is a clear difference in what was stated by those living in villages and those residing in towns and cities.

Close to two of every ten respondents living in the villages, identified irregular power supply as the main challenge. Another two in every ten respondents mentioned irregular water supply as the principal problem in their village. Another one in every ten mentioned poor public transport as the main challenge and another one in every ten spoke of the absence of toilets as the main problem they faced in rural areas.

Table/Chart 7.9



	Poor condition of roads	Pollution	Irregular power supply	Irregular water supply
Series1	14	14	13	12

n-3129

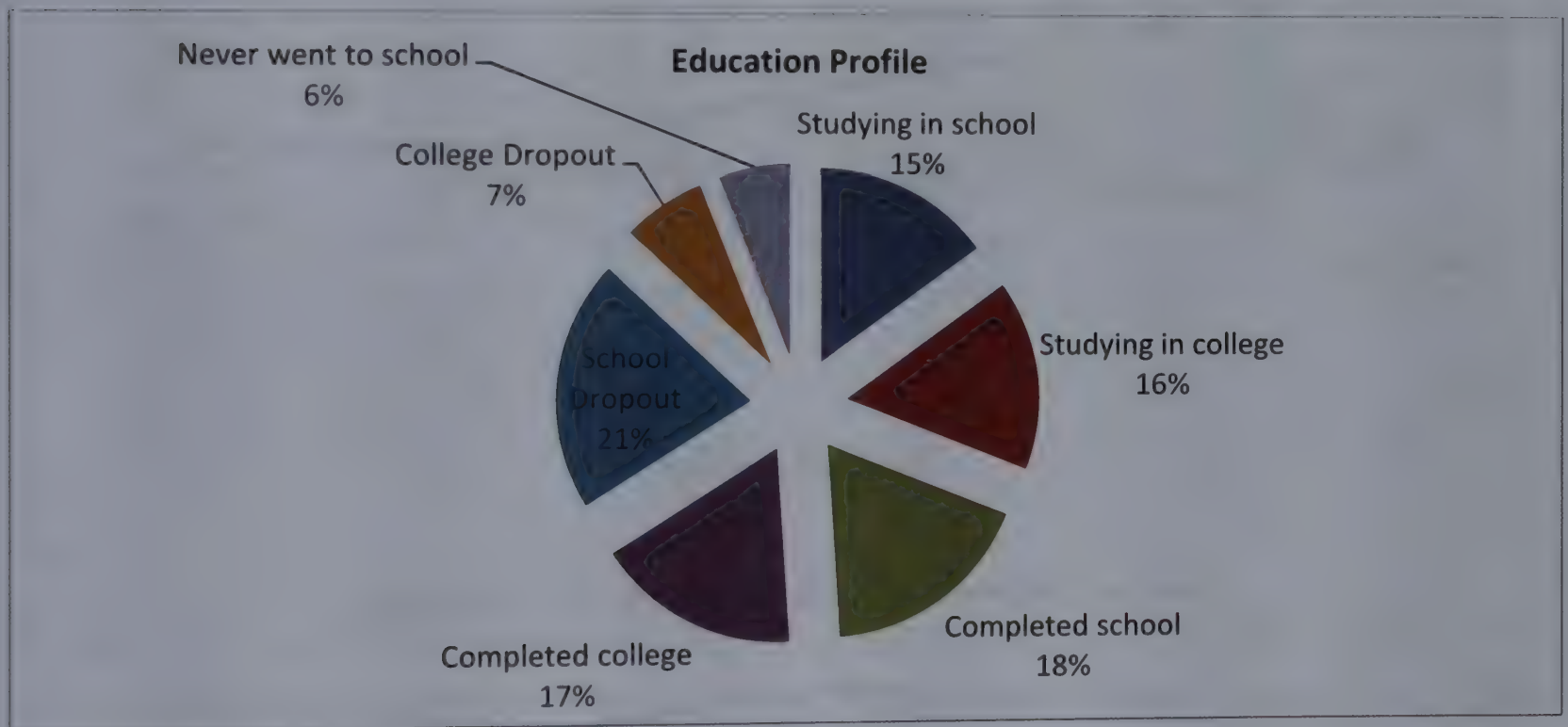
Urban residents highlighted a different set of issues. One fourth of the respondents identified either irregular water supply or irregular power supply as the biggest challenge of urban residents in the state. Close to one sixth of the respondents mentioned poor condition of the roads as the biggest challenge in urban areas. Another one sixth highlighted pollution as the most pressing problem of urban Karnataka.

Here again, young people in rural and urban areas reflected the mood of the people in the area that they lived while highlighting their problems. As this was an open ended question they were not offered a battery of options and their own reflections were recorded, classified and coded.

7.5 : Reflections on the Education System in the State

The survey asked a series of questions to young people about their experience with the education system. Among the respondents, a little over one third had completed their formal education (eighteen percent had completed schooling and seventeen percent had completed college). Three of every ten of the young respondents were still studying (sixteen percent were still studying in college and fifteen percent were pursuing the education in school). Two of every ten respondents was a school dropout. Seven percent were college drop outs and six percent never went to school.

Table/Chart 7.10

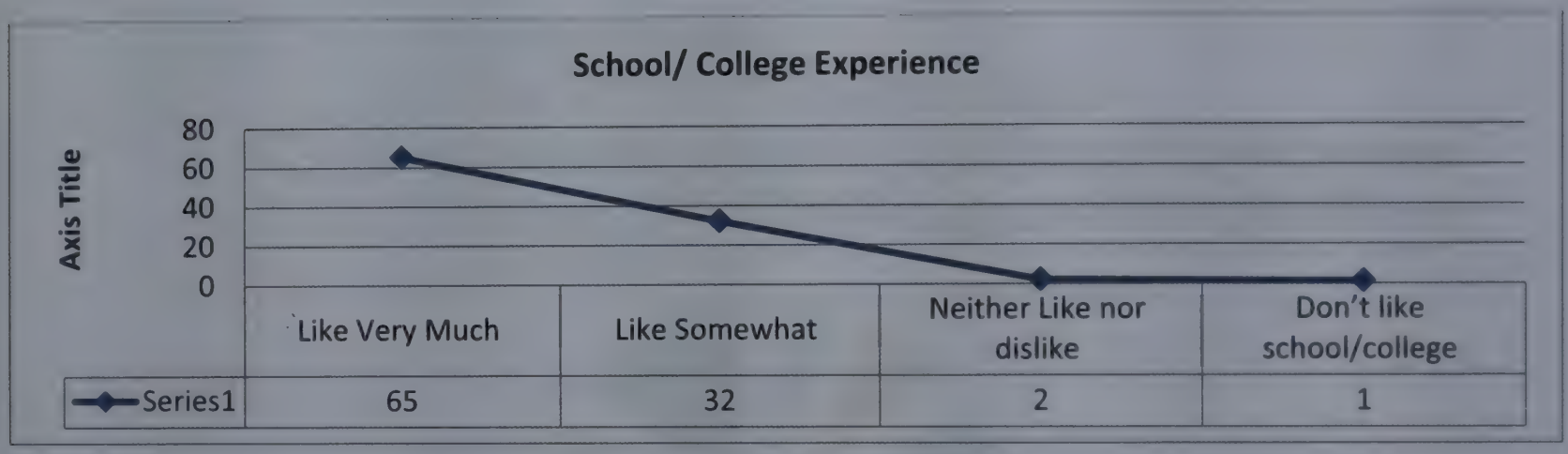


n-8932

Among those who had access to education (different levels) close to three fourths had studied in government educational institutions and the remaining one fourth had enrolled in private schools and colleges. Four of every ten of those who had gone to school/ college did so in a town. Another forty percent had their formal education in a village and the balance two of every ten accessed education in cities.

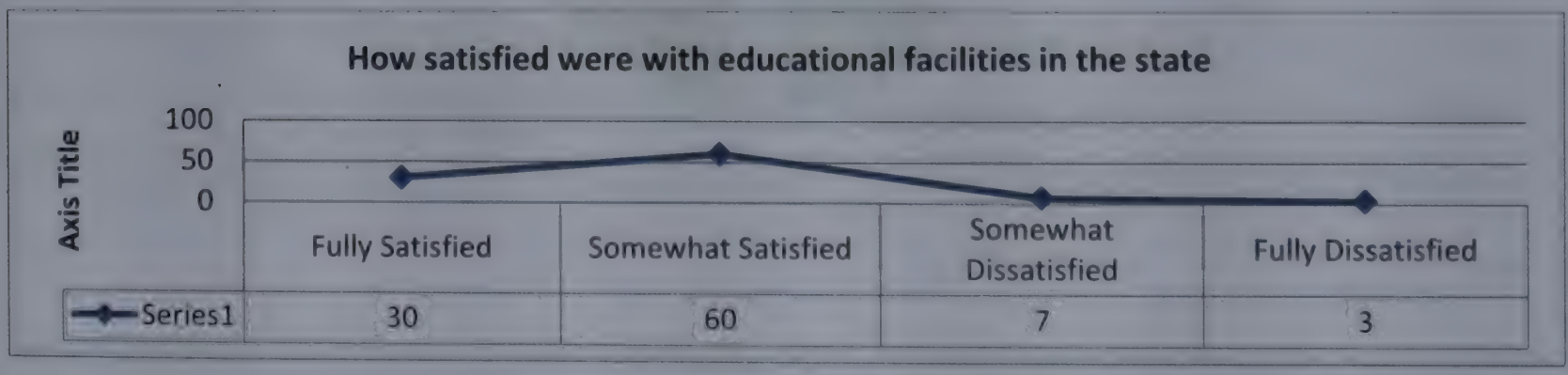
Those still studying in a school or college were asked: What did they feel about attending school/college? They were offered a menu of answer options – like it very much, somewhat like it, neither like or dislike it and do not like going to school/college. Two thirds of the respondents said that they liked going to school/college very much. Another, three of every ten said that they somewhat liked going to college/school. Only three percent were unhappy with going to school/college. It can be argued that this is not a reflection of the facilities and amenities provided but a sense of contentment with whatever was available and the thirst for learning and achieving something in life.

Table/ Chart 7.11



n-3368

Table/Chart 7.12



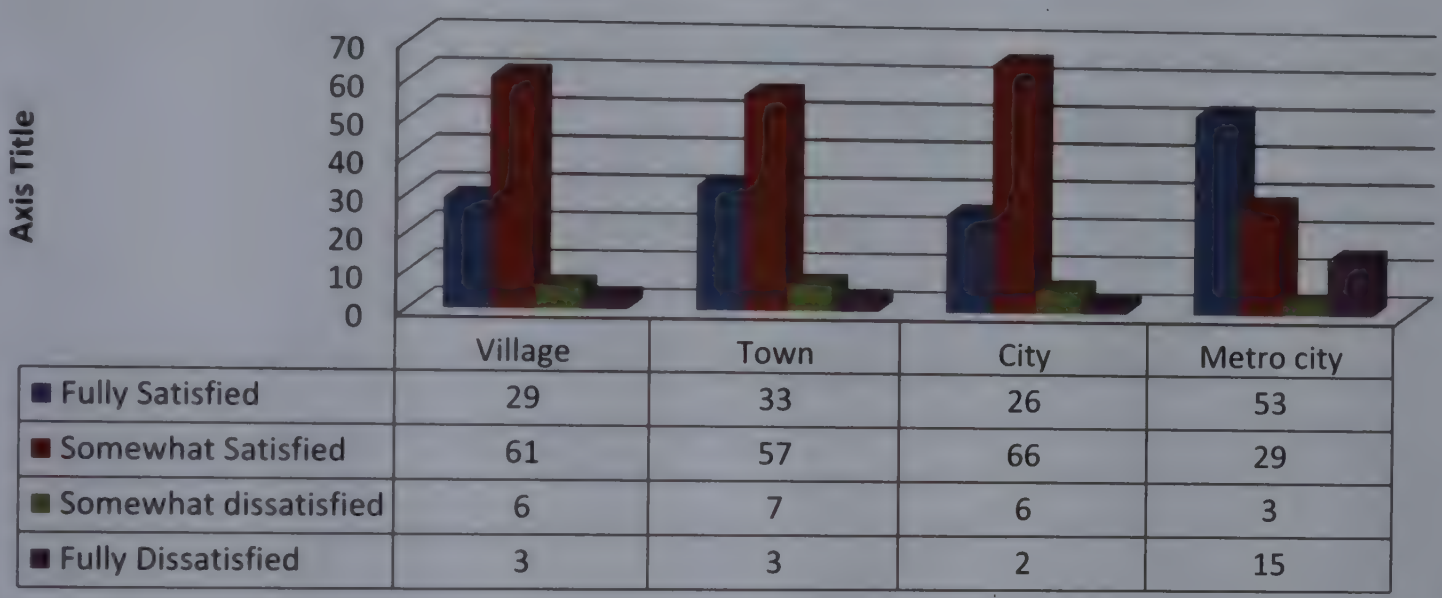
n-7981

How did those young people who at any time had the benefit of formal education evaluate the educational system in the state? They were specifically asked are you fully satisfied, somewhat satisfied,

somewhat dissatisfied or fully dissatisfied with the overall educational facilities available in the state. Three of every ten young people who had the chance of accessing education said that they were fully satisfied with the facilities. Another six of every ten said that they were somewhat satisfied. Only one in every ten young respondents expressed unhappiness about the facilities in educational institutions in the state.

Table/Chart 7:13

How satisfied were you with educational facilities in the State : By Place of Residence



	Village	Town	City	Metro city
Fully Satisfied	29	33	26	53
Somewhat Satisfied	61	57	66	29
Somewhat dissatisfied	6	7	6	3
Fully Dissatisfied	3	3	2	15

n-7981

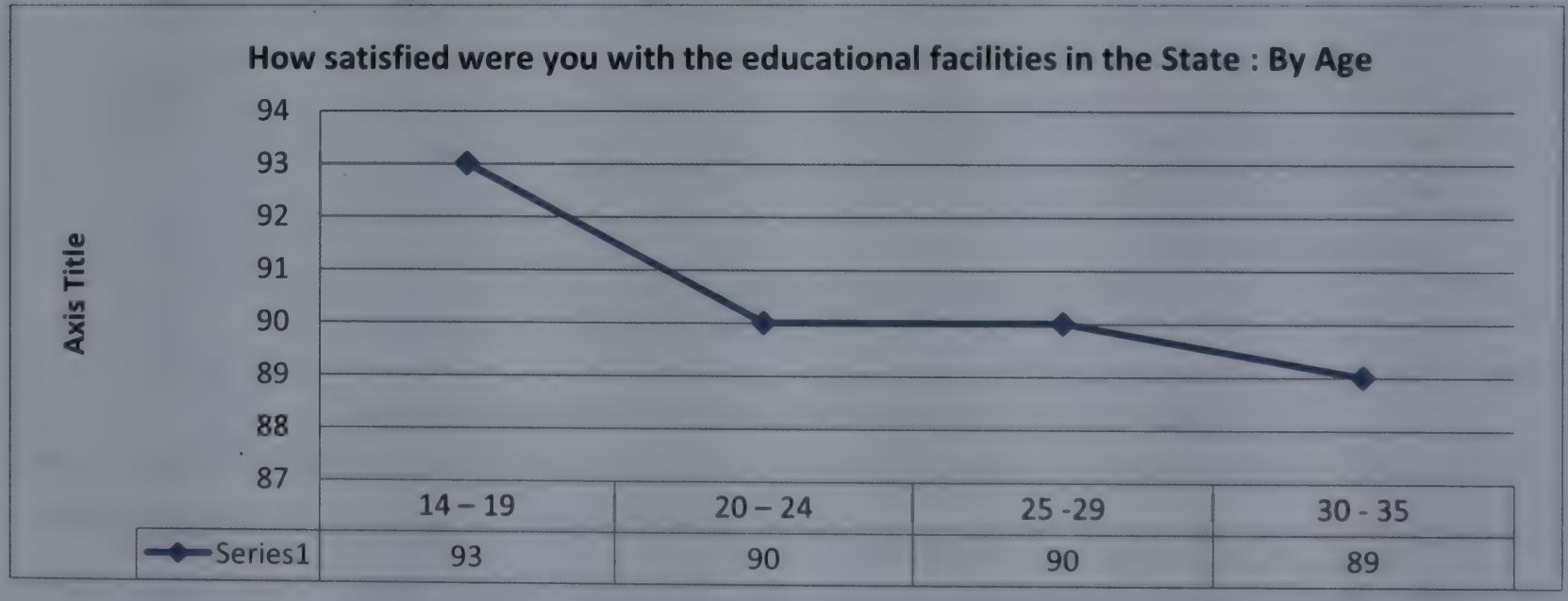
There are minor yet significant variations in response across rural and urban Karnataka. If three of every ten young people who accessed education in villages were fully satisfied with the educational facilities, the number rises to one-third when we speak to young people in towns. It dips to one-fourth in cities (other than Bengaluru). In Bengaluru city more than half the young people who accessed education was fully satisfied with the facilities.

More than two-thirds of the respondents in cities (other than Bengaluru) in Karnataka were somewhat satisfied with the educational facilities. In villages and towns, close to six of every ten were somewhat satisfied with educational institutions for what they provided. In Bengaluru, only three of every ten young respondents said that they were somewhat satisfied.

There was not much variation in the level of dissatisfaction with educational facilities save in Bengaluru. In this city, close to one –sixth of the young respondents felt that they were fully dissatisfied with the educational facilities. If the somewhat dissatisfied response is also added, close to two in every ten respondents in Bengaluru had reservations about the educational facilities. This is close to double (in percentage points terms) the level of dissatisfaction of what was expressed in villages, towns and other cities. This is much higher than the level of dissatisfaction expressed at villages, towns and small cities. This is not to imply that the facilities there are much better but is a reflection of expectation at different locations.

If the age of those who accessed education is taken into account, there was a slightly higher degree of dissatisfaction (combining slightly and fully dissatisfied) among those in the 14-19 age group as compared to those in the 30-34 age band.

Table/ Chart 7.14



n-7981

Among those who went to school/ college, they were asked to reflect on their school/college experience and state whether they found day to day life at school/college very stressful, somewhat stressful, somewhat relaxed or very relaxed? Close to half the respondents said that it was very stressful. Half the

respondents said that it was somewhat stressful. Only three of every ten respondents said that it was relaxed or very relaxed.

The facts and figures outlined in this chapter, categorically demonstrate the attitude and vision of young people in the state towards issues relating to their own state. The youth in state are proud to be Kannadiga and Indian and see no clash in the two identities. The manner in which they have prioritized the problems faced by common people in the state reflect the fact that the youth mirror reality very effectively. There is a general sense of disquiet with the government as a significant chunk of the young people believe that the government has not fully focused on their problems.

Chapter 8

Summary

In this section we summarize the main findings of our study. The preliminary report has been divided into a set of thematic chapters. The main findings as outlined in each chapter are presented here.

8.1 : FAMILY FRIENDS AND BEYOND

1. The Family as an institution continues to be central to the life of the youth in Karnataka. Across regions, in all social groups, in diverse economic circumstances, youth continue to endorse the centrality of the family.
2. The element of `change` is seen in the attitude of young people in the state, when they favour brining up their children in a manner different from how they were brought up.
3. Young people in the state endorsed the democratic essence of decision making on matters concerning their lives. While being an integral part of the decision making process, they acknowledge the role and influence of their parents also. This acknowledgement is made even by youth who are employed and have started their own families.
4. Parental influence in the life of the youth is seen in the assertion by young people that parents have the strongest influence over them followed by their siblings. Parental influence decreases as we move from a village to an urban area and correspondingly sibling influence increases.
5. Young people tend to trust their friends most followed by relations and teachers. The people that young people trust is directly linked to the socialization process a young person experiences. If those belonging to other castes and religions are low on trust it is more likely because of the limited opportunities for interaction with them.
6. A changing reality across the state is that young people interact much more with those from the opposite gender. This is today increasingly accepted and more the social norm in towns and villages.
7. Young people in the state did report to experience discrimination. The most commonly felt form of discrimination was on economic grounds. Caste based discrimination was also mentioned, especially by Dalit and Tribal youth. Young women did make the point that gender based

discrimination was also encountered by them. Religion was not a major factor of discrimination and this was endorsed by youth from minority religious groups.

8.2 : HOPE AND ASPIRATIONS – TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF YOUTH

8. A new generation of young Kannadigas had interesting priorities and aspirations. High education was an important priority for youth. Those who already had access to higher education did not see it as a major priority.... Those who had been denied access saw it high on their priority list. Their aspirations indicate that they are aligned with the vision of the state of making it a knowledge society.
9. Securing basic amenities was yet another priority for young people. Thi aspiration cut across all social groups and variables.
10. Being socially responsible was an aspiration of a significant chunk of the youth. This was either a reflection of their active involvement in social work already or a reflection of a desired future course of action. This was a clear priority with rural youth.
11. Youth also stressed on the fact that society must give the younger generation more responsibility. This both represents the aspiration of a new generation as also their frustration of not being provided with the opportunities that they believe that they deserve.
12. The competitive spirit among youth was very much on display when young people asserted that they would like to achieve more than others. Young people in the state were more aware and confident about their capabilities. Urban youth and those with access to higher education appeared to internalize that competitive spirit much more than others.
13. The materialistic instinct among young people was clearly on display when they asserted that making money was important to be happy.
14. The dichotomy between individual autonomy and being part of a group identity continued as a dilemma for most young people. This was evident when they conceded that they were not always in control of what happened in their lives and they had to often do things which were not right. Young people in metropolitan Bengaluru seemed more caught up in this dilemma as compared to those in smaller towns and villages.

15. The highest anxiety among young people was linked to their career and job prospects. This anxiety was more visible among the rural youth and young people from among the dalits and tribals.

8.3: LIFESTYLE CHOICES OF THE YOUNG

16. The most common free time activity of young people was watching movies and going out with friends. The habit of reading books and magazines was not very common among youth in Bengaluru. In towns and small cities, the habit of reading was still very much in evidence among young people. This could change with the spread and availability of internet in semi- urban and rural areas.

17. Young people were very keen to dress up in the latest style. A caveat needs to be added at this stage. This was more a reflection of an aspiration and not necessarily something they were able to practice. While it was clearly an urban phenomenon, the rural youth too were increasingly influenced by the same.

8.4 : POLITICS, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE

18. When asked about the one things that they would like to change, some favoured strategies to reduce poverty and inequality. They also expressed their frustration about the corruption and mal-administration and wished to reform the same. Ensuring compulsory education, generating employment opportunities and providing health care were the other priorities highlighted.

19. Did young people believe that government takes care of the interests of all? Close to two thirds of young people in the state felt that the government takes care of the interests of some only or none at all. Those who said some generally identified them as the rich people or those close to the ruling party. Young people were clearly unhappy about the inability of governments to meet the expectations of common people.

20. Most youth favoured the current policy of reservations in higher education. The upper castes and those in Bengaluru were more likely to oppose reservations as compared to others.
21. Young people from newly empowered social groups and the disadvantaged sections were increasingly frustrated with the injustice that the system meted out to them. They often favoured stronger and more aggressive means of expressing their dissent as the only means of securing social justice. Many young people seemed to conclude that violence alone could help achieve their legitimate goals.
22. The fact of political equality and the reality of social inequality is clearly mirrored in the views of the youth of the state.

8.5 EMPOLYMENT OPPORTUNITIES : VISION AND EXPECTATION

23. Young people in the state still favour a government job over working for the private sector. Those in small towns and cities (save Bengaluru) were more enamoured of government jobs than others.
24. The parental educational attainment did influence the employment choice of young people. While the father's education level did influence the preference for government or private jobs, the mother's being educated influenced the young people even more in their choice of working for the government or the private sector.
25. Youth seek a government job in view of the security it offers. Given the revised pay-scales, youth may also find government jobs more attractive from this perspective too. The cynic could always argue that there is also a link between preference for government jobs and desire for a job that provides a reasonable income on account of the perception that government jobs have great scope for sourcing extra-constitutional means of earning wealth.
26. In spite of the influence of globalization, young people prefer to remain within the state rather than venturing out to other parts of the country and beyond.

8.6 A NEW GENERATION'S VISION FOR KARNATAKA

27. As this was a Karnataka based survey, we had questions that specifically tapped issues relating to the state. It was heartening to note that an overwhelmingly high percentage of young people in the State were proud to call themselves Kannadigas. They saw no conflict between their identity as Kannadigas and Indians.
28. When asked what was the biggest challenge facing the state, they highlighted limited employment opportunities and the rampant corruption. Young people being worried about their employment prospects, is a natural expectation and the idealism among young people could be responsible for their frowning on maladministration and corruption. The basic amenities of water supply, electricity and roads, was also mentioned by the respondents. While the need for employment opportunities was highlighted in towns and big cities, corruption was cited more often in rural areas.
29. There was a reasonable degree of awareness of select government programmes. Among the respondents (and their families) there were not too many respondents who stated that they were the beneficiaries of these programmes. The distribution of the benefits seemed uneven and did not seem to have penetrated rural Karnataka.
30. Young people were not too convinced that the government in the state was focusing on their welfare.
31. Every region in the state had its distinct problems and these were voiced quiet assertively by the young respondents. They rightly identified what was the biggest challenge ion their region.
32. The challenges faced by urban Karnataka were very different from the ones faced by those in rural Karnataka. Respondents were sensitive to the same and hoped that the government too would respond with the same degree of sensitivity.
33. Young people were asked to reflect on the educational system in the state. Most of those who had accessed education, had been to government schools. Two thirds of the respondents were happy with their school/college experience. This may not necessarily be a reflection of the quality and access (to students) that the education institutions provided but more an acknowledgement of the opportunity to learn, especially given the fact that many of them may have been first generation learners.

34. The younger among the youth appeared more impatient with the educational facilities they were being given access to as compared to the older generation.
35. Close to half the youth said the school/college experience was stressful.
36. There was clearly a heightened expectation from the youth of the state in terms of policies, programmes and schemes targeted at the welfare and well-being of young people.

This report provides a snapshot of the aims, aspirations, vision and outlook of the young people in the state. The report has attempted to highlight the areas of convergence and zones of difference. Differences across Socio-Economic Status (SES), gender, place of residence, access to education and caste have all been highlighted. The report provides a ` moment` for a vigorous debate on the `world` as the youth see it and their vision for a transformed and reformed tomorrow.

Chapter 9

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Flowing from the conclusions of the Youth Survey, the Study wishes to put forward a few policy recommendations. It is hoped that these recommendations would help all stake holders who are actively involved in promoting the welfare and wellbeing of the state, to frame policy initiatives.

1. Karnataka prides itself as being in the forefront of creating a `knowledge society`, The young people in the state share this vision and are committed to taking this forward. It would be useful if the state harnesses the knowledge pool and resource available in the state to create a robust, engaged and vibrant knowledge society.

2. The study clearly shows that the family continues to be an important social institution in the lives of young people. It would be useful for government to target policies and programmes which aim at `family welfare` rather than mere `individual wellbeing`.

3. The new generation is brimming with ideas and has heightened expectations from the state. There is a negative perception on the role of the government/state among young people. There appears to be a lack of `engagement` with public life among the youth. It is vital that the government channelize the unbounded energy of the new generation and harness their potential for the well- being of the state. The state needs to strategize to involve the younger generation and sensitize them to the priorities of the government and ensure that those priorities are aligned to the `world of the youth`

4. Given the vital role and influence that parents play in the life of young people (especially in their formative years), it is important that educational institutions partner with parents in facilitating a conducive environment for the holistic development of the new generation. Partnering with parents is vital. More often than not educational institutions (both private and

government) provide limits space and opportunities for parents to partner in the process of creating a knowledge society. This needs to be immediately remedied.

5. The study unequivocally endorses the fact that the mother has a critical role the play in the shaping of the attitudes and aspirations of her children. The education of the girl child must be pursued with renewed vigour.

6. The towns and cities appear to be at the cusp of social empowerment, economic transformation and political awakening. It is vital that policy makers focus on these emerging urban centres. Given the vision, aspirations and dreams of young people in the emerging urban areas, opportunities to channelize the same need to be developed and sustained by policy makers.

7. There needs to be a serious expansion of opportunities and capacities across rural Karnataka. Young people in rural areas are often frustrated with the lack of opportunities and avenues. Information kiosks which provide the latest information with state of the art facilities need to be made available for young people.

8. In rural and the newly emerging urban Karnataka there need to be more opportunities for interaction among young people across caste group and religions. The survey noticed that there was limited interaction among young people across caste and religious groups. This is more on account of lack of opportunities for such interaction rather than an inherent desire not to interact. Such opportunities would also in the long run, facilitate greater harmony between social groups in society.

9. The educational system needs to be provide greater opportunities for young people to be involved in social work. While youth have expressed a desire to be involved in social activity they were constrained by the lack of institutional opportunities for the same.

10. Most young people in the state are caught up in a dilemma of how best to maintain their individual autonomy even while becoming part of a group identity. They are often unsure as to whether they are unconsciously on account of a range of pressures surrendering their individual space to conform to group norms. It would be useful if the younger generation is exposed to life skills training. This would help them make meaningful choices and assert their individuality even as they conform to larger social/group norms.

11. Young people feel that they are willing to take on responsibilities but have limited opportunities for the same. Policy makers could strategize on providing institutional platforms at multiple levels for youth to get engaged in productive work and thus demonstrate their social skills and sense of commitment, belonging and responsibility. This would help them take greater ownership for the system.

12. Governance is today about access. Young people are increasingly coming to believe that they (and ordinary citizens) have limited access to the state. They also see limited opportunities for participating in the process of decision making at multiple levels. In order to prevent an `exitism` from public life, the government needs to ensure the accessibility of the instrumentalities of the state, especially for the socially and economically underprivileged.

13. For young people from the newly empowered social groups and the socially and economically disadvantaged sections, the issues of social justice remain high on their agenda. They are increasingly coming to believe that the political/state process is not always sensitive to their just expectations. This has often encouraged a recourse to violence, agitation and the use of force. It may be useful for the state to ensure that voices of these disadvantaged groups are heard and given adequate attention.

14. There is an increased sensitivity in the younger generation to the need for the policy of reservations. The disenchantment is not with the philosophy of reservations but often with its

practice. It would be useful for policy makers to develop awareness programmes for all sections of the society on the need for reservations for socially/economically disadvantaged groups and also ensure fairness in the implementation of these policies.

15. The young people in the state are proud of their Kannadiga identity and the same must be cashed in upon by policy makers in the state by helping young people strengthen that identity.

16. With employment opportunities being a major area of anxiety for young people, the state needs to partner with the private sector and expand the pool of employment opportunities. It was this context that the need for life skills programmes for young people across the state was stressed. This would help build a positive self-image and enhance the skill sets of young people.

17. The government has a wide range of welfare programmes. The impact of three such programmes was tapped by the study. It is clear that these programmes are not fully reaching out to the target population it was meant for. This would defeat the very purpose of the programme.

18. Young people in the state are increasingly being convinced that the state government has not designed imaginative programmes targeted at young people. This could also be a result of the fact that the existing programmes of the government have not been publicized among the potential beneficiaries in an imaginative way.

ANNEXURES

SAMPLING METHODS

With an target of achieved sample size of 9000, the survey could be undertaken in 150 Assembly Constituencies spread across the state chosen by the method of circular random sampling. In each of the 150 Assembly Constituencies, four polling stations would be selected using the method of random circular sampling. A total of 600 polling stations would thus be selected. In each of the 600 polling stations 21 names would be identified from the voters list again by method of circular sampling choosing a random first number. The target sample size would be 12600. Of these it is hoped that a total of 9000 would be completed.

To interview those in the 18-34 age group, the voters list from the selected polling station would be selected. Those in the age group of 18- 34 in that voters list would be identified and 14 names would be identified from the same using systematic random sampling method.

To interview those in the 15-18 age group, 7 names would be drawn from the voters list of the said polling booths by means of systematic random sampling method. . These seven would be converted as household and from each of these households a youth in the age group of 15 to 18 would be selected. Alternatively a boy and girl would be selected.

We would allow for substitution (same gender , same age band) when it comes to those whose names are mentioned in the voters list in the 18-35 age group.

Each interview would be a face-to-face interview on the basis of a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire would be prepared in both Kannada and English and tested methods would be followed to ensure that the questions in both languages are asking the same issues. The field investigators would undergo rigorous training in survey techniques before being sent to the field.

Youth Study Questionnaire

I have come from the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education, a research organsation located at Bangalore. We are undertaking a study in collaboration with the Karnataka Jnana Aayoga. We are studying the opinion & attitudes of youth in our state for which we will interview hundreds of youths across the state. The findings of the research will be used for writing articles and academic purposes. The names of respondents interviewed in this survey will be kept strictly confidential. The survey is an independent study and is not linked with any political party. Kindly spare some time for this interview and answer my questions, as I need your active co operation for making this study successful.

Q1. I am going to ask you about activities which young people generally do in their spare time. How regularly do you do the following in your spare time ___mostly, sometimes or never**? (Read out options)**

	Activities	**Mostly**	**Sometimes**	**Never**	**No Opinion**
a.	Going out with friends	1	2	3	8
b.	Reading books/magazines/periodicals	1	2	3	8
c.	Playing some Game/Sport	1	2	3	8
d.	Watching films	1	2	3	8
e.	Spending time with Parents	1	2	3	8
f.	Doing social work	1	2	3	8
g.	Involved in political work	1	2	3	8
h.	Pursuing my hobby (specify)_____	1	2	3	8

Q2. If you had a chance to change one thing in society, what would that be (record exact words)

_____

Q3. If you recall your childhood days, how would you describe your upbringing- would you say that your upbringing was very strict, not so strict or not at all strict?

1. Very strict 2. Strict 3. Not so Strict 4. Not at all strict 8. No opinion

Q4. If you think about the way you would like to bring up your children, you would bring up ____ exactly the same way your parents brought you up, more or less the same way, differently or very differently?

1. Exactly the same way 2. More or less the same way 3. Differently 4.Very Differently 8. No Opinion

Q5. When we asked people about the work done by government, some say that the government takes care of our interests, some others say that the government does not take care of the interests of people like us and some people say that government take of nobody's interests. What do you feel, does the government take care of everybody's interests, some people's interests or nobody's interests.

1. Everybody's interests 2. Some people's interests 3. Nobody interests 9. DK/Cants Say

Q 6. (if stated some people's interests) Who are those some people (record exactly)

Q7. Do you study in school/college or have you completed your school/college studies?

1. Studying in school 2. Studying in College 3.Completed School 7. Distance education

4. Completed College 5.School drop out 6. College drop out 8. Never went to school

Q7a.(If currently studying in school/college) what is your opinion about attending school/College**(Choose whichever applicable**). Do you like to attend school/college- very much, somewhat, or you don't like going to school/college.

1. Like very much 2.Like somewhat 3. Neither liker nor dislike

4.Don't like going to school/college 8. No opinion/Distance Education 9. N. A

Q7b.(If studying or completed study) Do you study/studied in government or private school?

1. Government 2.Private 3. Any other (Specify)_____ 4. N .A

Q7c. (If studying or completed study) Where have/are you completed/continuing your schooling-village or city?

1.Village 2.Town 3. City 9. N. A

Q8. If you take into consideration the overall educational facilities available in Karnataka—do you think you are satisfied or dissatisfied with them?(Probe further if 'fully' or 'somewhat' satisfied or dissatisfied)

1.Fully Satisfied 2.Somewhat Satisfied 3. Somewhat Dissatisfied

4. Fully Dissatisfied 8. No Opinion

Q9. How would you describe your day-to-day life at school/college/workplace (ask the one applicable) like- is it very stressful, somewhat stressful, Somewhat relaxed, or Very relaxed?

1. Very Stressful 2.Somewhat Stressful 3.Somewhat Relaxed

4. Very Relaxed 8. No opinion 9. N. A.(Unemployed/Home maker)

Q10. Now I am going to read out few things, you tell me how important are they for you __ are they very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant or not important at all?(Read out Options)

		Very Important	Somewhat important	Not so Important	Not important at all	No Opinio
a.	Getting Higher education					
b.	Being provided basic amenities					
c.	Contributing to Society					
d.	Taking on responsibility					
e.	Dressing up/ Dressing in					

	latest styles/ trends					
f.	Getting married					

Q 11. You live in the _____- (HydKrtk/ Mumbai Krtk/ Coastal Krtk/ Central Krtk/ Bangalore/ Southern Krtk) region. According to what is the most important problem facing people like you in this region (record exactly)

_____

Q12. We often hear about people being discriminated on various accounts in their day-to-day life. Please tell me how often have you felt discriminated about the following-frequently, sometimes, or never?read out the reasons Listed)

	Reason	Frequently	Sometimes	Never	No opinion
a	Economic status/ Condition	1	2	3	8
b	Your Caste	1	2	3	8
c	Your Gender	1	2	3	8
d	Your Religion	1	2	3	8
e	Your State of origin/ region	1	2	3	8

Q 13. What according to you is the ideal age for a person to get employed (salaried job/self employed/start business)?(Record exact age)_____

98. Age no bar 99. No opinion

Q14. Considering all the people with whom you interact in your day-today life, who you think are you influenced by the most in your own life. (Do not read out answer categories)

1. Parents 2. Siblings-brother/sister 3.Friends/peers 4.Teachers

5. Colleagues 6. Neighbours 7. Seniors at Office 8. Any other (Specify) _____

9. Not Influenced 0. No Opinion

Q15. There are various factors that motivate people to choose their occupation/Work. I am going to read out considerations irrespective of whether you are seeking a job or not, which will be the most important consideration for your choice of occupation?(read out option 1 to 4)

1. Job with good income. 2. Job with security even if it means lesser salary.

3. Job with an opportunity to work with people of your choice.

4. Job that gives you a feeling of accomplishments/Satisfaction. 8. Don't know/no Opinion

Q16 .Would you like to work in a government service, private service or take up own business/profession?

1. Government Service 2. Private Service 3. Own business/Profession

4. N.G,.O's 7. Any Other (Specify) 8. D. K/ No Opinion

Q17. Now I am going to read out statements regarding the reservation of seats for SC, ST and OBC, Communities in higher education and professional courses. Tell me with which statements do you agree the most. (Read out option 1 to 4)

1. Seats should be reserved for SC,ST and OBC communities
2. Seats should be reserved for SC,ST but not for OBC Communities
3. Seats should be reserved for SC,ST but only for economically weaker(Poor) sections of the OBC Communities.
4. There should be no reservation of seats for any community in higher education

8. No Opinion

Q 18. How proud are you to be a Kannadiga? – very proud, proud, not proud or not at all proud?

1. Very proud 2. Proud 3. Not proud

4. Not at all proud 5. Not a Kannadiga

0. Could not understand 8. No opinion

Q19. I am going to name a number of institutions. For each one could you tell me how much trust you have in them. Is it great deal of trust, some trust, not very much trust or none at all?

		Great Deal	Some	Not very	None at all	No Opinion

				much		
a	Indian government	1	2	3	4	8
b	Karnataka Government	1	2	3	4	8
c	Local Government	1	2	3	4	8
d	Police	1	2	3	4	8
e	Courts	1	2	3	4	8
f	Legislatures	1	2	3	4	8
g.	NGO's	1	2	3	4	8
h	Religious institutions	1	2	3	4	8

Q 20. How proud are you to be an Indian? – very proud, proud, not proud or not at all proud?

1. Very proud 2. Proud 3. Not proud

4. Not at all proud 0. Could not understand 8. No opinion

Q21. Now I am going to read few statements that deal with peoples' opinion towards life. Do you agree or disagree with these statements (Probe further if 'strongly' or "somewhat" agree or disagree)

		Agree		Disagree		No Opinion
		Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	
A	It is important to achieve more than others	1	2	3	4	8
B	Most decisions about my life are taken by others	1	2	3	4	8
C	Nowadays one often has to do things that are not right	1	2	3	4	8
D	I often feel alone/lonely	1	2	3	4	8
E	I manage to achieve my goals and	1	2	3	4	8

	plans for success					
F	I cannot change anything about most things that disturb me	1	2	3	4	8
G	Money is very important to remain happy	1	2	3	4	8

Q22. Thinking of 5 close friends, tell me how many of them are (Record number)

	Number	No Response
a. Boys/Girls(Ask for opposite sex whichever applicable)	_____	8
b. From caste other than yours	_____	8
c. From religious community other than yours	_____	8

Q 23a Have you heard of Bhagyalakshmi scheme

1. Yes 2. No

Q 23 (b) (if Yes) Have you or your family benefited from it

1. Benefited 2. Not Benefited 8. Don't Know/ Cant Say 9. NA

Q 24a Have you heard of Sandhya Yojane scheme

1. Yes 2. No

Q 24 (b) (if Yes) Have you or your family benefited from it

1. Benefited 2. Not Benefited 8. Don't Know/ Cant Say 9. NA

Q 25a Have you heard of Aarogya Kavacha scheme

1. Yes 2. No

Q 25 (b) (if Yes) Have you or your family benefited from it

1. Benefited 2. Not Benefited 8. Don't Know/ Cant Say 9. NA

Q26. What according to you is the biggest problem faced by people in Karnatyaka

(Record the answer & Consult codebook for coding)_____ 98.

Can't say/No answer

Q27. There are various issues that a state like Karnataka needs to address. I am going to read out three such issues. What should the priorities of the government of the State in addressing them: (Rank these issues from 1 to 3 in order of priority. 1 being the most important and 3 being the least important

		No Opinion
a. Provide clean drinking water	_____	8
b. Building roads	_____	8
c. Ensuring continuous electricity supply	_____	8

Q28. People sometimes talk about what should be the goals/aims of the state for the next 10 years. I am going to read out a few priorities of the government. How would you rank these 3 things in terms of their importance -1 being the most important, 2 important & 3 being lease important(Rank these issues from 1 to 3 in order of Priority)

		No Opinion
a. Betterment of health services	_____	8
b. Providing good education facilities	_____	8
c. Guaranteeing employment for all	_____	8

Q29. While deciding about career and academic options different families adopt different ways to take decisions. Among some families parents take all the decisions while in other families the parents and

children discuss these matters together. Still there are some families in which children enjoy complete freedom in such matters. What has been your experience?

1. My parents decide everything
2.Parents & I discuss together
3. I decide everything Alone
8. No Opinion/can't Say

Q30.I am going to read out 3 statements about how people could remain happy. Tell me which statement do you agree with the most?(Read out Options)

1. To be happy in life one needs a family
2.one can be happy with or without family
3. One is happier alone, even without a family
8. No Opinion

Q31. If you had an opportunity, would you like to settle in a state outside Karnataka?

2.Yes
1.No
3.Can't say

Q31a. (if yes) if you get an opportunity, which state within India will be your most preferred choice for settling down?

(Record the name of country) _____

98.D.K/Can't Say
99 N. A

Q32.Now I would ask you how much trust do you have in people from various groups? I will show you a ladder with 1 to 10 steps (Show Card). If you place at step 1 those groups on whom you have a great deal of trust and at step 10 those groups on whom you have no trust then where would you place__

		No Opinion
a. Your Friends	_____	88
b. Your Relatives	_____	88
c. People from your own caste	_____	88
d. Your Neighbours	_____	88
e. People from other religion	_____	88

f. Your colleagues at work _____ 88

g. People from caste other than yours _____ 88

h. Your Teachers _____ 88

Q33. Few years from now, how do you foresee your future? Do you think your life will become very bright, somewhat bright or there will hardly be any change?

1. Very Bright 2. Somewhat Bright 3. No Difference

4. Dark Future/bad future 8. No Opinion/can't say

Q 34 a (to those living in a city/town) As you live in a town/city, what are the biggest problems people like you face in this town/city (record exactly)

_____

Q 34 b (to those living in a village) As you live in a village, what are the biggest problems people like you face in this village (record exactly)

_____

Q35. I am going to read out a few statements. Tell me, whether you agree or disagree.(Probe further whether strongly or somewhat agree or disagree)

		Agree		Disagree		No Opinion
		Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	
a.	Young people should be given more responsibilities in society	1	2	3	4	8
b.	Everyone should have the right to express their opinion, even if the majority is of a different opinion	1	2	3	4	8
c.	People should not be allowed to strike and demonstrate if they endanger public order	1	2	3	4	8
d.	Conflict exists in every society and	1	2	3	4	8

	can be resolved through violence					

Q36. If you had an opportunity, would you like to settle in a foreign country?

2.Yes 1.No 3.Can't say

Q36a. (if yes) if you get an opportunity, which country will be your most preferred choice for settling down?

(Record the name of country) _____

8.D.K/Can't Say 99 N. A

Q37. Young people have various kinds of insecurities/anxieties/anxieties in their lives. I will read out a few such insecurities. Tell me to what extent are you insecure about the following to a great extent, somewhat or not at all? (Read out options)

	Insecurities	Great Extent	Somewhat	Not at all	No opinion
A	Your Employment/Career	1	2	3	8
B	Maintaining my family traditions	1	2	3	8
C	Personal Health	1	2	3	8
D	Prospects of your marriage	1	2	3	8
E	Differences with family members	1	2	3	8
F	Road Accident	1	2	3	8
G	Interaction with your peers	1	2	3	8

Q 38. How would you compare your family's financial condition with that of your relatives? Do you think your family's economic condition is better than most of your relatives or your relatives are in a much better condition as compared to your family, or there is hardly any difference?

1. My family's economic condition is better than most of my relatives
2. My family's economic condition is worse than that of my relatives

3. No Difference
8. No response

Q 39. Every government initiates several programmes for different sections of society. According to you, has the present government in Karnataka, initiated programmes for the welfare and benefit of youth like you ?

1. No it has not 2. Yes it has 3. It is like any other government

4. No government has done anything for the youth

5. No government has done anything for anybody 9. Don't Know / Cant Say

BACKGOUND

1. What is your age? (As mentioned by the respondent in completed years) _____

B1a. Age (according to the Voter List) _____ (Not to be asked)

B2. Gender: 1.Male 2.Female

B3.What is your marital status?

1. Married 2.Unmarried 3.Living with someone, but unmarried

4. Divorced/Separated 5.Widowed

B4. Till what level have you studied _____ (Record exactly and consult code book)

B4a. Till what level have your father and your mother studied?

Father _____ Mother _____

B5. What is your current education/employment status-

1.Student not seeking employment 2.Student seeking/doing part time employment

3.Unemployed 4. Fully employed

5.Homemaker/Housewife 6. Partly employed

B6. (if fully employed) What is your main occupation? (if not fully employed) What is the occupation of the main earner in the family

_____

[Read exactly and consult code book] 99 Unemployed

B7. How regularly do you read the newspaper – daily, frequently, rarely or never?

1.Daily 2.Frequently 3.Rarely

4. Never 8.No opinion

B8. What is your Caste/Jati-biradari/Tribe name? (Probe further, if Respondent mentions ambiguous surname) _____ (Consult state codebook or master list)

B8a. And what is your caste group? (Ascertain and consult SC.ST/OBC list in code book)

1. Scheduled Caste (SC) 2. Scheduled Trbie (ST)

3. Other Backward Caste (OBC) 4. Other

B9. Which religion do you follow?

1.Hindu 2.Muslim 3.Christian 4.Sikh

5.Buddhist 6.Jain 7.Parsi 8. Other (Specify) _____

B.10 Generally, which language do you speak at home?_____

(Record exact answer & consult codebook for coding)

B11. Area/Locality:

1 Village 2. Town(Below 1 lakh)

3. City (Above 1 lakh) 4. Metropolitan city(Above 10 lakh)

B11a.(If Town/City)Type of house where lives(Own or rented)

1. House/Flat/Bungalow with 4 or more bedrooms
2. House/Flat with 3 or 4 bedrooms
3. House/flat with 2 bedrooms(with kitchen and bathroom)
4. House/Flat with 2 Pucca rooms(With kitchen)
5. House/Flat with 2 Pucca rooms(Without Kitchen)
6. House with 1 Pucca room(With Kitchen)
7. House/Flat with 1 Pucca room(Without kitchen)
8. Mainly Kutcha House
9. Slum/JhuggiJhopri/fully Kutcha 0. N.A.(Not applicable)

B11b.(If Village) Type of house where lives(own or rented)

1. Pucca(both wall and roof made of Puccca material)
2. Pucca-Kucha(Either wall or roof is made of Pucca material and of other Kutcha material;
3. Kutcha(both wall and roof are made of Kutcha material other than materials in category 4)
4. Hut(Both wall and roof are made of grass, leaves, mud. Un- burnt brick or bamboo) 0 n.A

b12. Number of rooms in use in the household _____

B13. Total number of family members living in the household?(Adults _____Children_____)

a. ☐ C. ☐

B14. Do you or your family members have the following:

		Yes	No
a.	Car/Jeep/Van/Tractor	1	0
b.	Colour or B/W television 2 Colour	1 B/W	0 B/W
c.	Scooter/Motor Cycle/Moped	1	0
d.	Telephone/Mobile telephone	1	0
e.	Fridge	1	0
f.	Air Conditioner	1	0
g.	Washing Machine	1	0
h.	Electronic fan/cooler	1	0
i.	Bicycle	1	0
j.	Radio/Transistor	1	0
k.	Pumping Set	1	0
l.	Cow/Buffalo(record exact number of cow/Buffalo together ----------		0

B15. Do you personally have the following:

		Yes	No
a.	Mobile Phone	1	0

b.	Computer/laptop	1	0
c.	Credit Card	1	0
d.	Debit card/ATM Card	1	0
e.	Home loan	1	0
f.	Vehicle Loan	1	0

B16. total monthly household income(Approx):

1. Upto Rs 1,000 2.Rs. 1,001-Rs. 2,000 3.Rs. 2,001-Rs.3,000

4.Rs. 3,001-Rs. 4,000 5.Rs. 4,001-Rs. 5,000 6.Rs. 5,001-Rs. 6,000

7.Rs.10,001-Rs. 20,000 8. Rs.20,001- Rs. 50,000 9. 50,001 and above

0. N.A

Other Details

Name of the Assembly Constituency _____

Name of Village/Locality _____

Date of Interview _____

Name of respondent _____

Name of Investigator _____

Name of Supervisor _____

Creation of Different Indexes

I - Discrimination Index

Q12a to 12 were recoded where 3 = 0, 1 = 2 and 2 = 1. Upon Adding up all the questions one got a variance of 0 – 10. 0 was coded as 1. No Discrimination, 1 – 5 as moderate discrimination and 6 to 10 as high discrimination.

II - Karnataka-Indian identity index.

The questions were combined in a way to create categories – not proud to be Indian or Kannadiga, proud to be Indian but not proud to be Kannadiga, Proud to be Kannadiga but not proud Indian, Proud to be a Kannadiga and Indian.

III - Father and Mother Education Categories

Father and Mother education were combined in a way to achieve 6 categories – a) Both Illiterate, b) Father Some school mother Illiterate, c) Father college degree mother Illiterate, d) mother and father some school, e) mother school father college degree and f) mother and father both college. We did not include the category mother college degree father school as no respondents were in that category

IV - Individual autonomy versus Group Identity index

All questions from Q21a to f were taken and added

Agreement was considered as agreement to the social norms and disagreement as a move towards individual autonomy or a move away from group identity.

On adding up the categories of strongly agree to strongly disagree ranging from 1 – 4 we got a variance of 6 to 24.

Cases that had not answered are coded as missing.

Values 6 through 12 are considered high adherence, values 13 – 17 as moderate and 18 to 24 as low adherence.

V - Trust Index

The original scale is inverted i.e. 1 = low trust and 10 = high trust

1 – 3 = Low Trust

4 and 5 = Moderate Trust

6 and 7 = High Trust

8 – 10 = Very High Trust

VII : Social Interaction Index

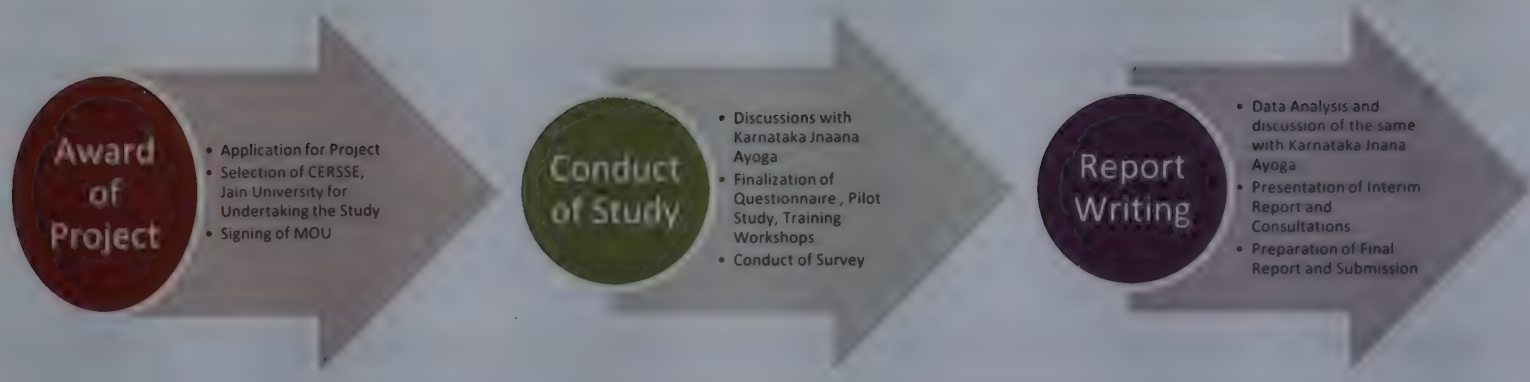
Q 22 a b c

No Interaction : Those who had no friends among the top 5 from any of the three categories

Moderate interaction : Those who had at least 1 or 2 friends in any of the three categories

High Interaction : Those who had at least 3 friends in any one of the three categories

Timelines for the Study


Award of Project
• Application for Project
• Selection of CERSSE, Jain University for Undertaking the Study
• Signing of MOU
Conduct of Study
• Discussions with Karnataka Jnaana Ayoga
• Finalization of Questionnaire , Pilot Study, Training Workshops
• Conduct of Survey
Report Writing
• Data Analysis and discussion of the same with Karnataka Jnana Ayoga
• Presentation of Interim Report and Consultations
• Preparation of Final Report and Submission

Feb – April 2010 **May – Sept 2010** **Oct 2010 – Feb 2011**

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